

# The White House Conference on Child Care

October 23, 1997

## Internal Q and A

### GENERAL CONFERENCE QUESTIONS

**Question:** Why are you hosting a White House Conference on Child Care?

**Answer:** The President and First Lady are hosting the first-ever White House Conference on Child Care to address the need that America's parents have for safe, affordable child care for their children. Millions of Americans, struggling to be both good parents and good workers, rely on child care and after-school programs to care for their children for part of each day. Exploring the roles of both the public and private sectors, the Conference is intended to begin a dialogue on three of the most pressing child care issues -- availability, affordability, and assuring safety and quality.

The White House Conference on Child Care underscores and builds upon President Clinton's commitment to strengthen the American family. As he said to the National Governors Association, "We think every child should have access to quality child care, and we think it's the next great frontier if we're going to make sure all Americans can succeed at home and at work." (7/28/97)

**Question:** What is happening at the Conference?

**Answer:** There will be two panel discussions addressing three critical child care challenges -- availability, affordability and assuring safety and quality in child care. The morning panel, moderated by the President and First Lady, will explore why child care is important to our children's development and our nation's economy, and examine the strengths and weaknesses of child care in communities across the country. The afternoon panel, moderated by the Vice President and First Lady, will highlight promising efforts around the country and discuss how all members of the community can address the challenge of assuring safe, affordable child care for working families who need it.

**Question:** What does the Administration see as the toughest problems facing parents when it comes to child care?

**Answer:** The intent of this conference is to examine the tough questions facing parents when seeking child care -- *Can I get it? Can I afford it? And can I trust it?* Millions of Americans rely on child care and after-school programs to care for their children for part of each day. Parents need for it to be safe, available and affordable.

**Question:** What has the President done on this issue?

**Answer:** President Clinton has worked to improve and increase funding for child care. Under President Clinton's leadership, Federal funding for child care has increased by nearly 70%. The 1996 welfare reform law increased child care funding by \$4 billion over 6 years to provide child care assistance to low-income working families and parents moving from welfare to work. A percentage of these funds are set aside for efforts to improve the quality of child care. To ensure that children in child care are in safe and healthy environments, the President also launched the Healthy Child Care America Initiative. And because the Department of Defense child care system has become a model of employer-sponsored child care and after-school programming, the President asked the DOD to share its expertise with the civilian child care community.

During President Clinton's time in office, funding for Head Start has increased by 43%. This funding will continue to expand until it reaches the President's goal of serving one million children by the year 2002. The President also initiated the Early Head Start Program to expand the proven benefits of Head Start to low-income families with children age three and under.

To expand the benefits of after-school care, the President has, among other things, supported and signed the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act to fund after-school programs; called for an increased number of community schools that stay open longer and provide valuable resources to families and communities; and published a guide on *Keeping Schools Open as Community Learning Centers*.

**Question:** **What is the state of child care in America?**

**Answer:** The morning panel will examine the question: what does child care look like in America today? As we know, studies have shown that quality is not what it should be. A recent four-state study on child care centers found that one in eight expose children to unsafe or unsanitary conditions and that only 14 percent provide high quality care. The conference participants -- parents, academic experts, economists, child care providers, advocates, and representatives of the religious, labor, and business communities -- will explore how we can improve the current state of child care.

**Question:** **By focusing on paid child care, are you discouraging parents from staying at home? Isn't it really the parents' role to nurture the child?**

**Answer:** The President and First Lady believe that the most important people in children's lives are parents, and they value and respect parents who decide to stay home to care for their children. We talk about family values in this country, but we need to look at steps to help parents make the choices that are right for their families. But, the reality is that 13 million children spend some or all of their day being cared for by someone other than their parents, either because both parents choose to or because both parents need to work. An important purpose of this conference is to address the needs of those 13 million children and their families.

**Question:** Are you looking at doing something to support parents who want to stay at home and care for their children?

**Answer:** This issue will be discussed at the Conference, and the President is looking at ways to support these parents at the same time as he is exploring ways to help working parents. Throughout his Presidency, President Clinton has worked hard to provide real choices and opportunities for parents. He has fought for policies that help working parents fulfill their responsibilities, including putting forth a \$500 per-child tax credit for children; expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit to give 15 million working families tax relief, increasing in the minimum wage, and signing Family and Medical Leave into law. President Clinton is committed to helping parents make the choices that are right for their families, whether that means working or staying home to care for children.

**Question:** How did you select these individuals who are panelists?

**Answer:** The White House held discussions with experts on child care from all across the country and received recommendations.

**Question:** The panels do not appear to be very bipartisan. Why not?

**Answer:** We have encouraged and received participation from both sides of the aisle. Republican State Representative Jane Maroney of Delaware will be a panelist today. In addition, Republican members of Congress will speak at the luncheon and the reception.

**Question:** What will the First Lady's role be in this?

**Answer:** The First Lady will continue to do what she has done for the last twenty years -- be a strong voice for children and families.

**Question:** Is the President intending to propose big investments in child care -- or strict regulation of child care -- in his next budget or State of the Union?

**Answer:** The President is considering a wide range of proposals for inclusion in the budget or State of the Union. He has made no decisions yet. But the President believes that the best way to make progress in this area is through collaboration with states, rather than through big, exclusively federal programs.

### **QUESTIONS ON NEW PROPOSALS**

**Question:** What did the President announce today?

**Answer:** The President announced his intention to develop a child care initiative as a part of his next budget proposal. In addition, he announced several new efforts:

- 1) The appointment of a **Child Care Working Group** that will report to Secretary Rubin on the role that business can play in providing child care;
- 2) A **proposal for a new scholarship program** for students training to be child care

providers, as well as an **outreach plan** to make child care workers aware of possible eligibility for Pell Grants;

3) The transmittal of the "**National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact**" to Congress, which will enable states to share criminal history information for non-criminal purposes, including background checks on child care workers; and

4) A **strategy to use community service to strengthen after-school programs**.

Enabling more communities to use community service to enrich their after-school programs, the President announced actions by the Corporation for National Service's new To Learn and Grow Initiative, a public-private partnership dedicated to expanding access to and enhancing the quality of after-school programs through service.

**Question: Are you announcing any new funding for child care today? What is the timing of your announcements? When will we see some really dollar figures? Next budget?**

**Answer:** The President took an important step to improve the quality of child care by asking Congress to enact a National Child Care Provider Scholarship Fund that will provide more than \$300 million in scholarships over five years to up to a quarter of a million child care providers (50,000 annually), helping the approximately 2.5 million children they care for. In addition, as the President said, his next budget will include a child care initiative.

### **The Child Care Working Group**

**Question: Who's on it?**

**Answer:** The Child Care Working Group will be made up primarily of prominent members of the business community. The group will consult with labor, economists and community leaders and report back to Secretary Rubin with recommendations.

**Question: What's its purpose?**

**Answer:** The group will look at promising models of child care and think more carefully about the role that business should play in providing child care for their employees or enabling their employees and others in the community to gain access to high quality child care.

### **National Child Care Scholarship Fund**

**Question: What is it?**

**Answer:** The President is proposing a new scholarship program, the National Child Care Scholarship Fund, as well as an outreach plan to let child care providers know that they may be eligible for Pell Grants. The Scholarship Fund will provide more than \$300 million in scholarships over five years to up to a quarter of a million child care providers (50,000 annually). It will provide assistance to full-or part-time students who are working toward a Child Development Associate credential or another degree in child

development and who agree to remain in the child care field for at least one year. Providers who complete their course work will receive increased compensation or a bonus. This program will be modeled after North Carolina Governor Hunt's T.E.A.C.H. -- Teacher Education And Compensation Helps Early Childhood Project -- and on the military system.

**Question:** **Why is the Administration proposing a new scholarship program, when the previously-existing Child Development Associate (CDA) Scholarship Program was consolidated under the Child Care and Development Fund?**

**Answer:** The Child Care Associate (CDA) scholarship program was a small program targeted at only one credential (the CDA). Given the limited nature of the CDA scholarship program, folding it into the Child Care and Development Fund made sense as part of an effort to simplify funding. The proposed new National Child Care Scholarship Fund is much broader in scope. It provides greater flexibility to States in designing programs that meet their needs. States can provide assistance to child care providers working towards state credentials, national credentials, and Associate, BA, or BS degrees.

**Question:** **Will the National Scholarship Fund raise the cost of child care?**

**Answer:** There is no evidence that child care costs will significantly increase since the overall demand for child care workers is continuing to grow, and any additional cost will be offset to some extent by savings associated with reduced staff turnover. North Carolina has not seen higher costs since it put T.E.A.C.H. in place.

**Question:** **How many people will the program affect?**

**Answer:** The program will provide training and support for up to 50,000 providers nationwide, affecting the care of more than a half million children per year.

**Question:** **Why is a national scholarship program needed since individuals can already receive assistance under the Pell Grant program?**

**Answer:** Pell Grants generally serve only very low-income individuals, and sometimes do not fully cover their costs. According to the U.S. Department of Education, among independent students (students for whom parental support is not expected), 70 percent of Pell Grant funds go to students with incomes of \$9,000 or less. Many of these low income students are in need of additional financial support. And others who need support are ineligible for Pell grants. This program will pay for a variety of costs, instead of, or on top of, Pell grants, such as tuition, books, transportation, and child care. All students will need to apply to apply for a Pell grant before receiving benefits under this program.

**Question:** **Why is it important to remind child care workers that Pell Grants are available?**

**Answer:** We would like to attract many talented students into this field. It is important that students know about all their options. Pell Grants can help make higher education a reality. A typical caregiver in a child care center earns \$12,000 a year. Attending a

community college half time, with total costs of \$3,000, this individual would be eligible for a \$1,350 Pell Grant in 1997-98.

### **National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact**

**Question: What is the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact?**

**Answer:** The National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact will facilitate effective background checks on child care providers by eliminating state law barriers to the sharing of criminal history information for purposes other than ongoing criminal investigations. The vast majority of child care providers are caring people who have dedicated their lives to teaching and nurturing children. But one tragedy in child care is too many, and background checks are one important way to ensure that the people watching our children are fit for this responsibility.

**Question: The First Lady has talked a lot about a registry of offenders. Is this what you are proposing be put in place?**

**Answer:** If the compact is passed and ratified, it will facilitate effective background checks on child care providers by eliminating state law barriers to the sharing of criminal history information for purposes other than ongoing criminal investigations. That way, child care agencies or parents wanting to do background checks can gain access to ratifying states' complete criminal records. It is not a registry. It is an efficient, effective way of getting this important information to parents and agencies.

### **After-School Service Announcement**

**Question: What is it?**

**Answer:** The President announced steps to use community service to strengthen after-school programs. The Corporation for National Service's new To Learn and Grow Initiative, a public-private partnership dedicated to expanding access to and enhancing the quality of after-school programs through service, will:

- Release a "How-To Manual" that shows after-school programs how they can use service to strengthen their efforts; and
- Provide training and technical assistance to after-school programs that want to use national service and volunteers to help meet their needs.

**Question: Why is this important?**

**Answer:** We are building on what works. Today, communities use both volunteers and those engaged in full-time service commitments such as AmeriCorps to extend the reach and improve the quality of many child care and after-school programs. These individuals work alongside child care providers, educators, and community-based professionals

across the country. Two-thirds of national service programs supported by the Corporation for National Service, including AmeriCorps, address the needs of children and youth, many in child care and after-school programs. The To Learn and Grow Initiative will build on this experience to show programs across the country how to use volunteers and others engaged in service to provide better care to more children. In addition, the Initiative will show after-school programs how to involve participating youth in service activities, so that the youth themselves gain the benefits of serving others.

**Question:** **Why are you proposing that volunteers provide child care and after-school care when the real need is for high-quality, trained professionals? Aren't volunteers ill-equipped to do this?**

**Answer:** We need both. There is a great need for better trained professionals in child care, but volunteers and those engaged in national service like AmeriCorps can greatly enhance and expand after-school options. Volunteer organizations like Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCA/YWCA's, and churches have a long history of providing high quality programs that have benefitted millions of children. In order to meet the need, we must tap the resources of many sectors.

#### **OTHER CHILD CARE POLICY QUESTIONS**

**Question:** **Can you explain the Child and Dependent Tax Credit? And can you tell us why it hasn't been adjusted for inflation since 1982? Is this something you are looking at?**

**Answer:** Working parents, who pay for the care of children under the age of 13, can reduce their income tax liability with the child and dependent care tax credit. Taxpayers can also claim the credit for the care of disabled spouses and dependents.

The credit can be applied to child care expenses of up to \$2,400 for one child and \$4,800 for two or more qualifying individuals. Married couples are generally only eligible for the credit if both the husband and wife work.

Regarding the question of an inflation adjustment: We are considering all options. This conference will explore how both the public and private sectors can respond to the need for safe, affordable, quality child care for Americans who are struggling to be both good parents and good workers.

**Question:** **Are there any other child care related tax provisions that benefit families?**

**Answer:** Yes. Currently, employers are allowed to exclude contributions for employer-provided child care expenses from employees taxable income.

**Question:** Will you propose national standards on health and safety?

**Answer:** As I said, nothing is off the table at this point, I will say that we realize that national standards are controversial, and we have found that the most successful efforts occur when the Federal government works hand-in-hand with States to improve and enforce high standards.

### Child Care and Welfare Reform

**Question:** When the President signed welfare reform into law, he praised the child care provisions of the bill. Has he changed his mind? Does he now think those provisions were inadequate?

**Answer:** No, he has not changed his mind. When the President signed welfare reform into law, he praised the bill for spending \$4 billion more on child care to help mothers on welfare go to work. The President continues to believe that child care is a critical component of welfare reform. But what was done in the welfare law is not enough. Today's conference will examine child care from a broader perspective, looking at the impact it generally has on child development, school readiness, and our economy as a whole. As the President said to the National Governors' Association in July, he and the First Lady think child care is "the next great frontier if we're going to make sure all Americans can succeed at home and at work."

**Question:** The new welfare law provided a substantial increase in funding for child care. Are states spending the additional funds?

**Answer:** Every indication is that States are experiencing a high demand for child care and that States across the country have committed their own dollars in order to get the Federal share of the matching funds contained in the new welfare law.

**Question:** The new welfare law contained a significant increase in child care funds. Are new investments really needed?

**Answer:** Because child care is vital to the success of moving welfare recipients into work, the President fought hard to make sure that the welfare law contained increased funding. And because of the President's efforts, the welfare reform law provided an additional \$4 billion in child care subsidies to address the real problem of child care availability. As today's conference will show, there are still many low-and middle-income working families who have never been on welfare who cannot afford the child care they need. And much of the child care available is of poor quality, and does not do enough to prepare our children for the challenges of the 21st century. Greater investment, be it public or private, is definitely needed.

**Question:** How do you expect so many welfare recipients to go to work if there's not enough good quality child care available?

**Answer:** Funds are available to help families on welfare go to work --the welfare reform law provided an additional \$4 billion in child care subsidies to address this problem. But, as today's conference will show, there are still many low-and middle-income working families who have never been on welfare who cannot afford the child care they need.

**Question:** Are welfare recipients getting preferential treatment for child care subsidies over families who've always worked and played by the rules?

**Answer:** States have a great deal of flexibility in deciding which low income families receive child care subsidies. Many states are focusing their subsidies on very poor families making the transition from welfare to work. Some states --such as Illinois, Michigan, and Washington --have created seamless child care systems that help low income parents whether they used to be on welfare or not. In July, the President called this practice "a model that I hope one day we'll be able to have everywhere in America" in a speech before the National Governors' Association. Today's conference will explore these tough questions of how the public and private sectors can respond to the need for safe, affordable, quality child care for all American families who are struggling to be both good parents and good workers.

In addition, it's important to remember that one of the larger child care investments our nation makes is through the tax code, which assists non-welfare families through the child and dependent care tax credit.

**Question:** At the Conference, you talked about supporting parents who want to stay at home and care for their children. But in the welfare law, mothers are required to go to work. Isn't this a contradiction in philosophy?

**Answer:** It is true that parents accepting public monies will not have the choice to stay at home to care for their children. But that is perfectly consistent with helping self-supporting families deciding to get by on one income so that a parent can stay home. In addition, it is important to remember that the welfare law gives states flexibility to exempt mothers for a period of time so that they may stay home with young children; and many States have taken advantage of this provision.

**Question:** There are a lot of child care proposals on the Hill. For instance, Senators John Kerry (D-MA) and Kit Bond (R-MO) announced yesterday an Early Childhood Development Act. Does the Administration support it?

**Answer:** We appreciate the commitment shown by many members of the House and Senate towards child care and early child development programs, and are pleased that many members are speaking here today and that the Conference will be watched by satellite on Capitol Hill. Additionally, White House staff have met and continue to meet with Members of both parties and congressional staff, to explore promising ways to improve child care in America. We look forward to continuing our working relationship.

## CHILD CARE FOR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS

**Question:** How do Federal employees learn about their child care options?

**Answer:** The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) assists Federal employees in locating appropriate care by providing the *Handbook of Child Care and Elder Care Resources* and refers employees to the ChildCare Aware toll-free number (a national number anyone can use) which helps locate child care resources and referral organizations in their area.

**Employees of the Executive Office of the President** are told about U.S. Kids, the child development center serving the Executive Office of the President, during first-day orientation. In addition, notices are posted electronically on the internal electronic bulletin board, as well as the (old fashioned) standard push pin bulletin boards.

**Question:** What are the child care options for parents who work at the White House?

**Answer:** Employees of the Executive Office of the President (EOP) have the option of enrolling their children in the nearby U.S. Kids Child Development Center, a center accredited by the independent National Association for the Education of Young Children. Additionally, White House parents may enroll their children in any of the 27 other Federal child care centers in the greater Washington, D.C. area. U.S. Kids serves employees of the EOP, the Export-Import Bank, the Treasury Department and the Department of Veterans Affairs and is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and has programs for children ages three months to five years. [Address: 1425 New York Avenue, phone: (202) 233-4623. Center Director: Sharon Hall Fleming]

**Question:** The President and First Lady tout the Military's Program. Why?

**Answer:** The DoD Child Care System serves over 200,000 children (age zero to 12) daily, making it the largest employer-sponsored child care program in the nation.

DoD Addresses the Comprehensive Needs of Parents: The DoD system, known as the Child Development Program, includes Child Development Centers, Family Child Care homes, School-Age Care programs, and Resource and Referral services. Through this system, the military offers full-day, part-day, and hourly child care, part-day preschools, before- and after-school programs for school age children, and extended hour care which includes nights and weekends to accommodate shift workers.

DoD's Child Care System has been Recognized for its Devotion to Excellence: Because of the Department of Defense's commitment to excellence in child care, since 1992, the number of military child care facilities that are accredited by the independent National Association for the Education of Young Children has risen from 55 to 353. **Currently, over 75% of military child care programs are accredited, as compared to only 7% of other child care facilities nationwide.** Since the early '90s, the DoD has focused

on improving the quality, availability, and cost of child care for military families.

**Question:** **Isn't it unrealistic to hold up the Military child care system as the model?**

**Answer:** There are certain aspects of the DoD system that are unique. The Department of Defense as an employer invests significant funds into their system because providing for military personnel and their family needs benefits the overall readiness mission. Although DoD is unique, there are still lessons to be learned (including family day care networks, unannounced inspections, etc.) Because of the DoD's high quality, comprehensive child care programs, in April 1997, President Clinton directed the Secretary of Defense to share the expertise and lessons learned from the Military Child Development Programs with the civilian child care communities. DoD is doing just that. Defense Secretary Cohen recently sent a letter to the President outlining this effort.

**Question:** **How does the civilian sector of the Federal Government rate?**

**Answer:** There are more than 230 child care centers for civilian government employees in Federal buildings in as many as 36 states. The General Services Administration (GSA) oversees 108 of these centers, making GSA the largest civilian sponsor of work-site child care in the nation. Under this Administration, the emphasis on quality has continued with 73 percent of GSA sponsored centers accredited by the independent National Association for Education of Young Children, with a goal of reaching 100 percent accreditation within two years. Striving to meet the needs of parent workers, 89 percent of GSA centers have infant care, 74 percent have drop-in/emergency care and 42 percent provide summer programs for school aged children. In addition, more than 80 percent of centers are open 11 or more hours per day. Notably, nearly 70 percent of the child care center directors have ten or more years in early childhood education experience.

**Question:** **One of the biggest barriers to finding quality child care is affordability. How is the Federal government addressing this issue?**

**Answer:** The Federal Government, like the private sector, still faces challenges in providing affordable care to lower paid government employees. The General Services Administration, the largest civilian sponsor of work-site child care in the nation, has studied this problem intensively this year. It found that while employer-supported child care is a cost-effective investment, it requires steady, predictable funding. In May, GSA released a report to Congress outlining the need to increase revenues and enrollment, reduce operating costs, and expand the availability of tuition assistance for parents who can't afford to pay full fees.

**At the Executive Office of the President, U.S. Kids, the nearby Federal child care facility, does provide a small tuition assistance program fund. [Presently, there are four children receiving need-based scholarships.]**

**Question:** **The Federal Government is often touted as a model employer. What are some of the innovations?**

**Answer:** Under President Clinton's leadership, the Federal government, striving to be a model employer for other private and public employers, has implemented **family-friendly leave initiatives** that enhance the ability of employees to balance family and employment obligations. In addition to leave initiatives, the Federal government **offers compressed or flexible work schedules** to many workers so that they may spend more time with their families. The Administration also **supports telecommuting** where appropriate.

### ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

**Question:** **Mark Fiedelholz -- the father of Jeremy Fiedelholz, an infant who died in a Florida child care center -- has been critical of the Administration, specifically your denying him a role in this conference. Do you have any comment?**

**Answer:** Mr. Fiedelholz has litigation pending in the state of Florida regarding the death of his infant son Jeremy. It is White House policy not to comment on any matters currently before the courts -- we must avoid the impression that we are attempting to influence the outcome of judicial proceedings.

The President and First Lady were saddened to learn of the Fiedelholz's loss and sent the family a condolence note in May. Additionally, Mr. Fiedelholz has been in contact with the White House Office of Agency Liaison which has provided Mr. Fiedelholz with the name and phone number of an HHS Administration for Children and Families staffer who handles such cases.

**Question:** **In Cambridge Massachusetts, a nineteen year-old British woman, in this country through an au pair program, is on trial for the murder of her young charge. Shouldn't these au pair programs be better regulated so qualified caregivers are taking care of our nation's children?**

**Answer:** This case is currently before a Middlesex County Court and it is White House policy not to comment on any matters currently before the courts -- we must avoid the impression that we are attempting to influence the outcome of judicial proceedings.

The U.S. Information Agency, the agency that runs the au pair program announced in September (unrelated to this case) updated regulations regarding the screening and placement of au pairs. The updated regulations include: au pair participants who care for children under two years old must have 200 or more documented hours of infant-care experience; au pair training will include 24 hours of child-development instruction; au pairs will be limited to working 10 hours a day and 45 hours a week; their pay will increased from \$115 to 139.05 a week because of the increased minimum wage; and a more open process of verification of information has been put in place aiding the selection and screening process of au pair participants.

## THE WHITE HOUSE AT WORK

Thursday, October 23, 1997

### The President and First Lady Host the First-Ever White House Conference on Child Care

*"[T]he American dream has represented a compact that those who work hard and play by the rules should be able to build better lives for themselves and for their children. In this time, and even more into the future, child care that is too expensive, unsafe or unavailable will be a very stubborn obstacle to realizing that dream. So let us commit ourselves to clearing the obstacle, to helping parents fulfill their most sacred duty, to keeping the American Dream alive for them and, most important, for their children."*

-- President Clinton, October 23, 1997

Today, the President and First Lady are hosting the first-ever *White House Conference on Child Care*. The day-long conference will address the need that America's parents have for safe, affordable child care for their children. Millions of Americans, struggling to be both good parents and good workers, rely on child care and after-school programs to care for their children for part of each day. Exploring the roles of both the public and private sectors, the Conference is intended to begin a dialogue on three of the most pressing child care issues -- availability, affordability, and assuring safety and quality.

#### PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCES NEW CHILD CARE POLICY INITIATIVES

Today the President announced his intention to develop a child care initiative as a part of his next budget proposal. As he said, "[O]ur administration will develop a plan to be unveiled at the next State of the Union to improve access and affordability, and to help assure the safety of child care in America." In addition, the President is:

- Calling on Congress to establish a **National Child Care Provider Scholarship Fund** that will provide more than \$300 million in scholarships over five years to up to a quarter of a million child care providers (50,000 annually). Under this scholarship, child care providers who complete their course work will receive increased compensation or a bonus.
- Transmitting the **National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact** to Congress, which will, once enacted and ratified by states, facilitate effective background checks on child care providers by eliminating state law barriers to the sharing of criminal history information for purposes other than ongoing criminal investigations (like background checks on providers).
- Appointing a **Child Care Working Group** that will report to Treasury Secretary Rubin on the role that business can play in providing child care.
- Encouraging the use of **community service to strengthen and expand after-school programs**. The President announced actions by the Corporation for National Service's new To Learn and Grow Initiative, a public-private partnership dedicated to expanding access to and enhancing the quality of after-school programs through service, including the release of a "How-To Manual" that shows after-school programs how to incorporate community service into their programs.

#### BUILDING ON THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHENING CHILD CARE

This Conference builds on the President's commitment to strengthening America's working families. Part of this effort includes the Administration's work to improve and increase funding for child care. Because of the President's leadership: federal funding for child care has increased by nearly 70%; the 1996 welfare reform law increased child care funding by \$4 billion over six years; the Healthy Child Care America Initiative is ensuring that children in child care are in safe and healthy environments; and Head Start funding has increased by 43% so that nearly 800,000 children are now being served.

## **WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE OVERVIEW**

### **10:00-10:30 am OPENING SESSION**

- 10:00-10:10** The First Lady welcomes, makes remarks, and introduces video.  
**10:10-10:15** Video is shown.  
**10:15-10:17** Kathy Carliner (parent) introduces the President.  
**10:17-10:30** The President makes remarks.

### **10:30-12:00 pm PANEL DISCUSSION:**

#### **THE CHALLENGE: AVAILABILITY, AFFORDABILITY, AND ASSURING SAFETY AND QUALITY IN CHILD CARE**

The President and First Lady will moderate this session.

#### **Panelists:**

- Ellen Galinsky**, President and Co-Founder, Families and Work Institute.  
**Michelle Seligson**, Founder and Director, National Institute on Out-of-School Time.  
**Secretary Robert Rubin**, Secretary of the Treasury.  
**Secretary Donna Shalala**, Secretary of Health and Human Services.  
**Governor James Hunt**, Governor of North Carolina.  
**Valora Washington**, Program Director, W.K. Kellogg Foundation.  
**Patty Siegel**, Executive Director, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network.

### **12:00-2:00 pm WHITE HOUSE LUNCHEON AND WORKING SESSIONS AT FEDERAL AGENCIES**

The First Lady will host the White House luncheon at which several Members of Congress will speak. In addition, Secretaries Shalala, Herman, Riley and Glickman will host working sessions at several agencies with assembled groups who will watch White House proceedings by satellite.

### **2:00-4:00 pm AFTERNOON SESSION**

- 2:00-2:05** The First Lady welcomes and introduces the Vice President.  
**2:05-2:15** The Vice President makes remarks and introduces Secretary Richard Riley.  
**2:15-2:20** Secretary Riley makes remarks.

**PANEL DISCUSSION:  
LEARNING FROM WHAT WORKS**

The First Lady and Vice President will moderate this session.

**Panelists:**

**Major General John G. Meyer**, Chief of Public Affairs United States Army.

**Jane Maroney**, State Legislator, State of Delaware.

**Dr. Susan Aronson**, National Board, Member of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

**Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan**, Vicar of Human Services, Diocese of Brooklyn.

**Beatriz Otero**, Executive Director, Calvery Bi-Lingual Multicultural Learning Center.

**John J. Sweeney**, President, AFL-CIO.

**Doug Price**, President, FirstBank of Colorado.

**4:00-6:00 pm**

**SOUTH LAWN RECEPTION**

The First Lady will host a reception for White House and federal agency participants on the South Lawn. Mrs. Clinton will make remarks and report on the federal agency working sessions. In addition, several Members of Congress will make brief remarks.

## White House Conference on Child Care Panel One Participants

**Ellen Galinsky.** President and Co-Founder, Families and Work Institute.

Before founding the Families and Work Institute, Ms. Galinsky served on the faculty of Bank Street College of Education and as President of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). She has been an advisor to the U.S. Department of Education on business and family involvement in education, and the U.S. Department of Labor. She has also served as an advisor to many states on their early education and care initiatives and on work and family issues.

Under Ms. Galinsky's leadership, the Families and Work Institute, which is a non-profit, national center for policy research on issues of the changing workforce and changing family lives, is directing a number of studies ranging from the quality of child care in America to an examination of the work, family and personal lives of U.S. workers. In addition to these studies, Ms. Galinsky, in conjunction with the National Governor's Association and the National Center for Children in Poverty, is directing an effort to provide technical assistance to several states as they work to develop a comprehensive, integrated agenda for young children. She is also coordinating the outreach activities for a public awareness campaign of what families and communities can do to promote their young children's healthy development and school readiness.

**Ms. Michelle Seligson.** Founder and director, National Institute on Out-of-School Time, formerly the School-Age Child Care Project at Wellesley College Center for Research on Women.

Before founding the School-Age Child Care Project (*SACCP*), Ms. Seligson was the Assistant Director of the Human Relations/Youth Resources Commission of Brookline, MA, where she developed a city-wide system of parent-administered after-school programs in the public schools. The project gained national recognition and inspired the creation of the *SACCP*. The *SACCP* has been active in calling attention to the problems facing latchkey children and their families. *SACCP* serves as a research, training and policy institute focusing on how children spend their out-of-school time. The National Institute on Out-of-School Time's mission is to improve the quantity and quality of school-aged care programs nationally, by concentrating its efforts in five primary areas: research, education and training, consultation, program and community development and public awareness.

**Secretary Robert Rubin.** Secretary of the Treasury.

Robert E. Rubin was sworn in as Secretary of the Treasury in January, 1995. From 1993-1995, he served in the White House as Assistant to the President for Economic Policy. In that capacity, he directed the National Economic Council, which oversees the Administration's domestic and international economic policymaking process, coordinates economic policy recommendations to the President and monitors the implementation of the President's economic policy goals.

Prior to joining the Administration, Mr. Rubin spent 26 years at Goldman, Sachs & Co., where he served as Vice Chairman and Co-Chief Operating Officer from 1987 to 1990 and as Co-Senior Partner and Co-Chairman from 1990 to 1992. Before joining Goldman, he was an attorney at the firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton in New York.

Mr. Rubin also previously served on the Board of Directors of the New York Stock Exchange, the Harvard Management Company, the New York Futures Exchange, the New York City Partnership and the Center for National Policy.

**Secretary Donna Shalala.**

Secretary Shalala was sworn in as the 18th Secretary of Health and Human Services in January, 1993. The Department of Health and Human Services leads the Administration's child care activities, coordinating Federal child care assistance through the Child Care Bureau at the Administration for Children and Families.

Under Secretary Shalala, HHS is working to improve the health and safety of America's child care programs. For example, the Department launched the Healthy Child Care America Campaign to promote partnerships between child care and health agencies to ensure that children in child care are in safe and healthy environments and receive the health services they need. In October 1996, HHS awarded \$2.5 million in grants to support and encourage the development of statewide strategies and planning for healthy, safe child care programs.

**Governor James Hunt.** Governor of North Carolina.

Governor Hunt, who is serving his fourth term as Governor of North Carolina, has led education reform efforts in his state and challenged all North Carolinians -- educators, business and community leaders, policy makers and parents -- to dedicate themselves to improving education state-wide. He set up the primary reading program, reduced class size, created dropout prevention programs and established the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics. He also successfully pushed to make kindergarten available to every North Carolina child.

Governor Hunt helped establish and still chairs the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, which is working to boost excellence in teaching. In addition, he was recently named chairman of the National Education Goals Panel, which was set up in 1990 to monitor the progress of "Goals 2000," an achievement plan developed during a summit of the nation's governors. Governor Hunt also chairs the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future, which promotes the teaching profession to young people.

For the next four years, Governor Hunt has laid out an *Agenda for Action* that focuses on giving children a healthy start in life and further improving North Carolina schools. *Smart Start*, the Governor's early childhood initiative, is providing higher quality day care, more day care slots, better trained teachers and preventive health screenings for thousands of North Carolina children. Governor Hunt was also critical in the establishment in 1990 of the T.E.A.C.H. (Teacher Education And Compensation Helps) Early Childhood Project, which assists teachers, directors

and family child care providers in completing coursework in early childhood education and increasing their compensation. The T.E.A.C.H. Project has provided scholarships to recipients in each of North Carolina's 100 counties and has since expanded to Georgia, Illinois, New York and Colorado.

**Dr. Valora Washington.** Program Director, W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

The author of six books and over forty publications, Dr. Washington joined The Kellogg Foundation after serving as Vice President and tenured professor of Antioch College in Ohio, and having held both faculty and administrative posts at other Universities throughout the country. She has received several honors for her work on behalf of children and families, most recently in February 1997 when she was named one of "25 most influential working mothers" by *Working Mothers Magazine*.

As Program Director for the Kellogg Foundation, she has created and managed a variety of initiatives in excess of \$86 million to work with communities on efforts to support children, youth and families.

**Patty Siegel.** Executive Director, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network (R&R Network).

Since 1970, Ms. Siegel has been actively involved in the development and delivery of child care services, combining perspectives as a teacher, as a parent-organizer and as the founding director of one of the nation's first child care resource and referral agencies, the Children's Council/Childcare Switchboard in San Francisco.

Since 1980, she has served as the Executive Director of the California Child Care Resource and Network (R&R Network), a private non-profit agency which represents and assists sixty-one local child care resource and referral agencies that helps parents find child care. The R&R Network combines practical knowledge at the local level with extensive experience in working on state and national child care policy.

Ms. Siegel oversees the Child Care Initiative Project, a \$7 million dollar statewide public-private partnership to expand the supply of licensed quality child care by recruiting and training new family child care providers, with special emphasis on infants and toddlers and Spanish speaking communities. She was involved in the creation and implementation of TrustLine, California's registry of license-exempt caregivers.

## White House Conference on Child Care Panel Two Participants

**Secretary Richard Riley.** Secretary Riley serves as the Secretary of Education.

During the President's first term, Secretary Riley helped launch historic initiatives to raise academic standards; to improve instruction for the poor and disadvantaged; to expand federal grants and loan programs to help more Americans go to college; to prepare young people for the world of work; and to improve teaching. He also helped to create the Partnership for Family Involvement in Education, which today includes over 3,000 groups. In the second term, Secretary Riley has helped win an historic ruling by the F.C.C. to give schools and libraries deep discounts for Internet access and telecommunications services and helped win major improvements in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Before joining the Clinton Administration, Secretary Riley was a state representative and state senator from 1963-1977, and served as governor of South Carolina from 1978 to 1986.

**Major General John G. Meyer, Jr.** Chief of Public Affairs United States Army.

Major General John G. "Gil" Meyer, Jr. formulates Army public affairs policies and advises the Secretary of the Army and other senior Army and Department of Defense officials on public affairs matters relating to the Army. Prior to heading the Public Affairs Department, General Meyer served as the Commanding General of the Army's Community and Family Support Center, overseeing all family programs, including child development programs. Under his leadership, the Army improved its Child Development program (which includes all child care programs, achieving a national accreditation rate of 85% -- meaning that 85% of the Army's child care facilities were accredited by the independent National Association for the Education of Young Children -- compared to the national average of 5%.) Major General Meyer was instrumental in the military's efforts to increase the supply of child care.

**Jane Maroney.** State Legislator, State of Delaware.

Jane Maroney has served in the Delaware House of Representatives for eighteen years, where her legislative responsibilities include Health and Human Development, Education, Joint Finance Committees and the Delaware Commission on Family Law.

As chair of a legislative task force on child care in 1984, she successfully led the establishment of a resource and referral agency, the Child Care Connection, now called the Family and Workshop Connection. She serves on the Board of Directors as well as the St. Michael's Day Nursery, founded in 1895, providing quality early care to inner city children in Wilmington.

Representative Maroney has taken a leadership role in public health and safety issues both on national and local levels. In addition to championing early care, her recognition of the need to strengthen Delaware families has led her to focus on infant mortality, AIDS prevention and

education, unintended pregnancy, youth suicide prevention, child support, and related issues. She currently serves as the Speaker's designee from the House of Representatives to the Delaware Health Care Commission and as a member of its Cost Containment Committee.

**Dr. Susan Aronson.** Member, American Academy of Pediatrics, National Board.

Dr. Aronson's involvement with the American Academy of Pediatrics spans over twenty years, to her most recent position as a District Chairperson. As the director of the Pennsylvania American Academy of Pediatrics Early Childhood Education Linkage System, she runs a state-wide program to improve health and safety in child care programs by providing technical assistance, and by training and linking health professionals and early care and education professionals. She serves as the co-chair of the Central Steering Committee for the second edition of the National Standards for Health and Safety in Out-of-Home Child Care, a joint project of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Public Health Association and the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of HHS. She has won numerous awards, most recently the Flashes of Brilliance - Gold Award for 1994, from the Academy for Health Services Marketing. Dr. Aronson is also a Primary Care Pediatrician at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia, and a Clinical Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the Hahnemann School of Medicine.

**Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan.** Vicar of Human Services, Brooklyn, NY.

Ordained as a priest for the Diocese of Brooklyn in 1956, Bishop Sullivan was appointed Assistant Director of Child Welfare in Catholic Charities Diocese of Brooklyn in 1961. Later as Director of Child Care of the Diocese he was responsible for coordinating ten child caring agencies which provided foster care services for 9,000 to 10,000 children. These agencies handled adoption, foster family care services, and residential treatment centers. In 1967, Bishop Sullivan initiated the development of day care and headstart programs in Brooklyn and Queens. Catholic Charities currently operates eighteen day care and headstart programs and a Montessori day care program for children in the community and children of Chase Manhattan Bank employees. He has served as the Vicar for Human Services since 1980.

**John J. Sweeney.** President, AFL-CIO.

Mr. Sweeney was elected President of the AFL-CIO in 1995. Prior to rising to that position, Sweeney was Vice President of the AFL-CIO and Chair of the Executive Council committees on Health Care and Organizing and Field Services. In 1996, he authored *America Needs A Raise, Fighting for Economic Security and Social Justice*. He also co-edited the UNA-USA Economic Policy Council's *Family and Work: Bridging the Gap*.

**Mr. Doug Price.** President of FirstBank of Colorado.

As chairman of Governor Roy Romer's Colorado Business Commission on Child Care Financing, Mr. Price is leading Colorado's effort to examine the needs of working parents and their children. The Commission has promoted business awareness through statewide meetings with corporate executives and the Governor, to discuss the economic and social benefits of employers creating

parent friendly work places. He also serves as president of the Food Bank of the Rockies, a non-profit food distribution agency in Colorado, which annually handles over 10 million pounds of donated food and provides an estimated 700,000 meals each month. He serves as chairman of the Center City Housing Council of the Downtown Denver Partnership.

**White House Conference on Child Care**  
Regional Satellite Downlink Sites

**Alabama**

*Birmingham*

Alabama Power Company, 600 18th Street, North  
Contact: Gussie Harris (205) 581-5036

**Arkansas**

*Little Rock*

University of Arkansas Medical Science Center, Arkansas Cancer Research Center,  
44301 Markham  
Contact: Pat Montoya (Health and Human Services) (214) 767-3301

**California**

*Fresno*

California State University, Fresno Satellite Student Union  
Contact: Rich Brassfield, USDA Rural Development Director (209) 487-5010

*Los Angeles*

University of Southern California, Davidson Executive Conference Center  
Contact: Regina Jones (213) 299-8998 (Tel) (213) 295-9095 (Fax)

*Oakland*

Oakland City Hall, One City Hall Plaza  
Contact: P.J. Ballard, Office of the Mayor (510) 238-3141

**Colorado**

*Denver*

Governor Romer will host.  
Contact: Maggie Cary (303) 844-3372

**Connecticut**

*Hartford*

Trinity College  
Contact: Beth Bye (860) 297-5291

**Delaware***Newark*

University of Delaware

Contact: Jack Holloway (302) 577-8807 x196

**Florida***Miami*

Miami Dade Junior College

Contact: Ophelia Brown (305) 347-4615

*St. Petersburg*University of South Florida, Dept. of Environmental Protections Building,  
Florida Marine Institute

Contact: William Fillmore, Head Start Association President (813) 547-5925

**Georgia***Atlanta*

Georgia Public Broadcasting, 260 14th Street, N.W.

Contact: Nancy Hall (404) 685-2415

**Iowa***Cedar Rapids*Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids, Amana Room in Iowa Hall, 6301  
Kirkwood Blvd., S.W.

Contact: Karl Sefl (319) 398-5684

**Illinois***Chicago*

University of Illinois at Chicago, Eye and Ear Infirmary Auditorium, 1855 W. Taylor

Contact: Dr. David Loebach, Illinois Department of Human Services (217)  
785-9230*Rosemont*

Comdisco, 6111 North River Road

Contact: Mary Moster or Bobbie Wasserman (847) 518-5147

###

**Indiana***Indianapolis*

Ivy Tech State College, 1 West 26th Street  
Contact: Mary Burris (317) 921-4458

**Kansas***Manhattan*

Kansas State University, Waters Hall Room 137  
Contact: Marlene Glasscock, School of Family Studies and Human Services  
(785) 532-1484

**Kentucky***Louisville*

Humana Inc., 500 W. Main Street  
Contact: Linda Walker (404) 331-4762

**Maine***Portland*

University of Southern Maine  
Contact: Elaine Guiney (617) 565-8415

**Maryland***Arnold*

Anne Arundel Community College  
Contact: Remy Agee

*Towson*

Towson University  
Contact: Elyn Garrett-Jones (410) 767-7701

*Hughesville*

Southern MD Electric Coop  
Contact: Becky Stevens (307) 475-4633

*Takoma Park*

Montgomery College

Contact: Kerry Hoffman (301) 650-1517

## **Massachusetts**

### *Boston*

T.P. O'Neil Federal Building

Contact: Elaine Guiney (617) 565-8415

## **Michigan**

### *East Lansing*

Michigan State University, Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, 55 South Harrison

Contact: Michigan Primary Care Association (517) 281-8000

## **Minnesota**

### *St. Paul/Minneapolis*

State Office Building, Room #5, 100 Constitution Avenue

Contact: Michelle Barnes Lewis, Minnesota Department of Health (612) 282-3854

## **Mississippi**

### *Cleveland*

Delta State University, Ewing Building, Room 211-212

Contact: Jennifer Beane (601) 254-9957

### *Jackson*

University of Mississippi Medical Center, Administrative Conference Center, 2500 North State Street

Contact: LuAnn Ainsworth (601) 359-4556

### *Starkville*

Mississippi State University, Bost Extension Building, Theater Building B

Contact: Linda Breazeale (601) 325-1717

## **Missouri**

### *Kansas City*

Rockhurst College, Richardson Hall Room 115

Contact: Joe Whited (816) 501-4151

**New Jersey***Princeton*

Princeton University

Contact: Pat Parisi (212) 637-6284

**New Mexico***Albuquerque*

University of New Mexico, Continuing Education and Community Service

Contact: Matt Barnett (505) 277-8833

**New York***Syracuse*

Syracuse University School of Education

Contact: Mary Speno Mahoney (315) 469-8986

**North Carolina***Raleigh*

North Carolina State University, 302 Ricks Hall

Contact: Ellen Devlin (919) 515-3173

**Ohio***Columbus*

Ohio Department of Human Services, 150 East Gay Street, 18th Floor

Contact: Paul Frauholtz, Ohio DHS Child Care Bureau (614) 752-6223

**Pennsylvania***Philadelphia*

Community College of Philadelphia

Contact: Linda Wallace (215) 751-8082

**Rhode Island***Providence*

Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce

Contact: Lori Patrone (401) 277-1185 x159

**South Carolina***Rock Hill*

**Winthrop University**

Contact: Dean Thomas Powell, College of Education (803) 323-2154

**Texas***Austin*

University of Texas at Austin, Bass Lecture Hall, 2315 Red River

Contact: Pat Montoya (Health and Human Services) (214) 767-3301

**Vermont***Burlington*

University of Vermont (UVM)

Contact: Kim Kiser (Governor's Office) (802) 241-2233

**Virginia***Chantilly*

Westfields Marriott

Contact: Gail Bjorklund (703) 324-8825

**West Virginia***Charleston*

St. Capitol Complex

Contact: Cathy Forsythe (304) 523-9540

*Wheeling*

WV Northern Community College, B&O Building Auditorium

Contact: Cathy Forsythe (304) 523-9540

**Washington D.C.**

General Services Administration Auditorium, 18th & F Streets, N.W.

United States Capitol (Senate Downlink will be open to members and overflow)

Contact: Kimberly O'Connor (202) 224-6770

**Washington**

*Spokane*

Downtown Doubletree Hotel

Contact: Marty Jacobs, Executive Director of WAEYC

**Wyoming***Cheyenne*

Laramie County Community College

Contact: Health and Human Services

**Panelists for the White House Conference on Child Care**  
**October 23, 1997**

Conference panelists will include:

**Dr. Susan S. Aronson.** Member of American Academy of Pediatrics, National Board. Dr. Aronson will address the role of health professionals in improving the quality of child care, specifically in improving health and safety.

Dr. Aronson's involvement with the American Academy of Pediatrics spans over twenty years, to her most recent position as the District Chairperson for District III. As the director of the Pennsylvania American Academy of Pediatrics Early Childhood Education Linkage System, she runs a state-wide program to improve health and safety in child day care programs by providing technical assistance, linkage and training of health professionals and early care and education professionals. She serves as the co-chair of the Central Steering Committee for the second edition of the National Standards for Health and Safety in Out-of-Home Child Care, a joint project of the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Public Health Association and the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of HHS. She has won numerous awards, most recently the Flashes of Brilliance - Gold Award for 1994, Brochures Category from the Academy for Health Services Marketing. Dr. Aronson is also a Primary Care Pediatrician at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia, in addition to being a Clinical Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the Hahnemann School of Medicine.

Dr. Aronson can be reached at 610-664-3923.

**Brigadier General John G. Meyer, Jr.** Chief of Public Affairs United States Army. Brigadier General Meyer will discuss the military's child care delivery system and the components that make it exemplary, also providing an historical perspective on the military's commitment.

Brigadier General John G. "Gil" Meyer, Jr. formulates Army public affairs policies and advises the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff, Army, and other senior Army and Department of Defense leaders on public affairs matters relating to the Army. As the former Commanding General of the Army's Community and Family Support Center, Brigadier General Meyer was the proponent of all family programs including child development programs. Additionally, Under his leadership, the Army Child Development program was able to achieve a National accreditation rate of 85%, compared to the national average of 5%. He was instrumental in helping the army lead the military in meeting the need for child care.

Brigadier General Meyer can be reached at 703-695-5135.

**Mr. Doug Price.** President of FirstBank of Colorado. Mr. Price will address the role of business leaders in meeting child care needs.

As chairman of Governor Roy Romer's Colorado Business Commission on Child Care Financing, Mr. Price is leading the effort to examine the needs of working parents and their children. Among other accomplishments, the Commission has promoted business awareness through statewide meetings with key business leaders, the Governor, and top executives to discuss the economic and social benefits of employers creating a parent friendly work place. He also serves as president of the Food Bank of the Rockies, a non-profit food distribution agency in Colorado, which annually handles over 10 million pounds of food and provides an estimated 700,000 meals each month. And Chairman of the Center City Housing Council of the Downtown Denver Partnership.

Doug Price can be reached at 303-235-1100.

**Ms. Michelle Seligson.** Founder and director, National Institute on Out-of-School Time, formerly the School-Age Child Care Project at Wellesley College Center for Research on Women. Ms. Seligson will address why after-school care is important to enhance children's development, school-readiness, and safety to prevent at-risk behavior, and will examine existing after-school opportunities.

Before founding the *SACCP* project, Ms. Seligson was the Assistant Director of the Human Relations/Youth Resources Commission of Brookline, MA, where she developed a city-wide system of parent-administered after-school programs in the public schools. The project gained national recognition and inspired the creation of the *SACCP* project. The *SACCP* project has been active in calling attention to the problems facing latchkey children and their families. *SACCP* project serves as a research, training and policy institute focusing on how children spend their out-of-school time. The National Institute on Out-of-School Time's mission is to improve the quantity and quality of school-aged care programs nationally, by concentrating its efforts in five primary areas: research, education and training, consultation, program and community development and public awareness. Their work has culminated in the MOST Initiative, a \$6.5 million initiative, for which she is Executive Director.

Michelle Seligson can be reached at 617-283-2547.

Members of the Cabinet participating in the White House Conference on Child Care will include:

**Secretary of the Treasury Robert Rubin**

**Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala**

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# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 10, 1997

Dear Colleague:

As you know, the White House is holding a full-day conference on child care on October 23, 1997. The conference will bring together a number of experts in early childhood education, the delivery of child care services, and other related fields to closely examine child care in the United States.

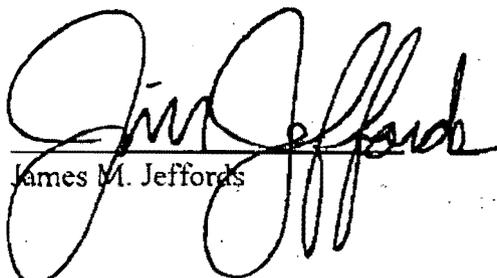
There is strong bi-partisan interest in child care. More than 12 million children under the age of five, including half of all infants under one year of age, spend at least part of their day being cared for by someone other than their parents. There are millions more school-aged children under the age of twelve who are in some form of child care at the beginning and end of the school day as well as during school holidays and vacations. For parents who must work, affordable child care that is dependable and convenient makes it easier to find and keep a job.

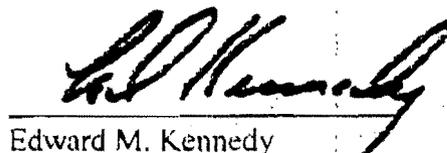
Unfortunately, space limitations will only permit about a hundred people to attend the White House conference. We want to ensure that the White House conference is made accessible to members of Congress and their staff, local child care providers, parents, organizations, and others with an interest in child care. Therefore, we are pleased to announce that, working with the White House and the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, we have arranged for a live satellite downlink of the conference in the Dirksen Senate Office Building, room SDG-50.

Realizing that few can devote a full day to the Senate simulcast, spaces will be reserved for members of Congress and their staff, so you can drop by as your schedule permits. The Senate simulcast will be open to local child care providers, parents, organizations, and others who will not be attending the White House event. General Mills, Incorporated through the Cheerios Brand, have agreed to sponsor the event.

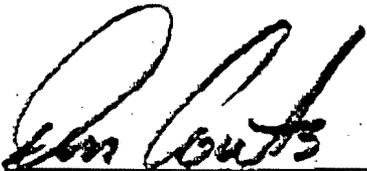
We hope that you and a member of your staff can arrange to spend at least part of Thursday, October 23 at the Senate simulcast of the White House conference on child care. As soon as the day's agenda is finalized we will distribute copies to help you better plan your day.

Sincerely,

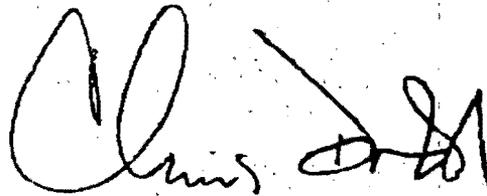
  
James M. Jeffords

  
Edward M. Kennedy

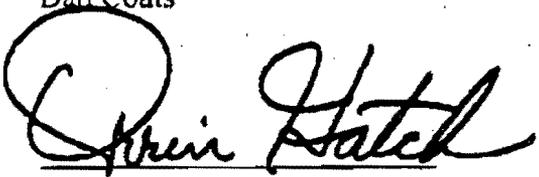
Dear Colleague  
October 10, 1997  
Page 2



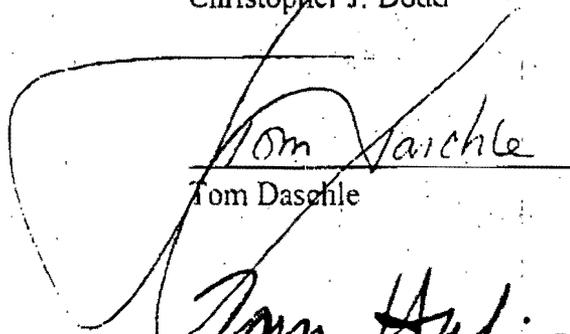
Dan Coats



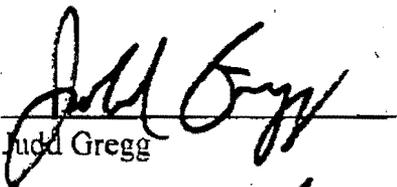
Christopher J. Dodd



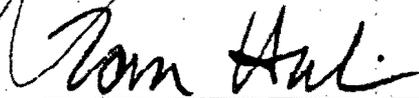
Orrin G. Hatch



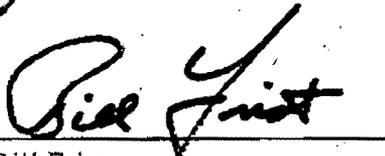
Tom Daschle



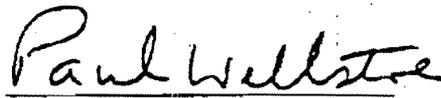
Judd Gregg



Tom Harkin



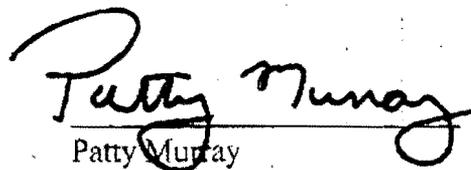
Bill Frist



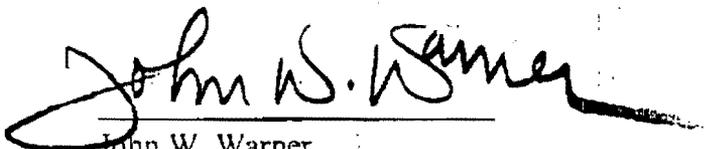
Paul Wellstone



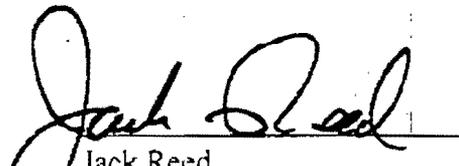
Mike DeWine



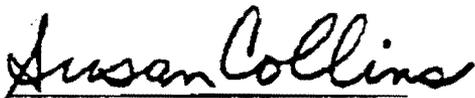
Patty Murray



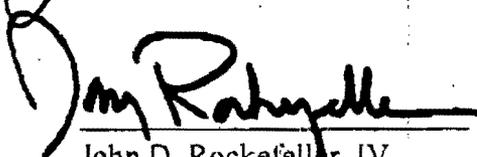
John W. Warner



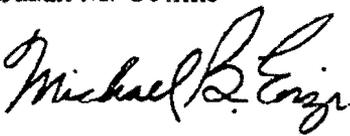
Jack Reed



Susan M. Collins



John D. Rockefeller, IV

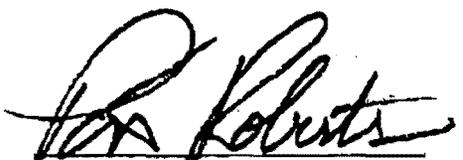


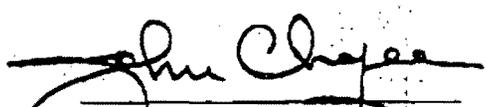
Mike Enzi



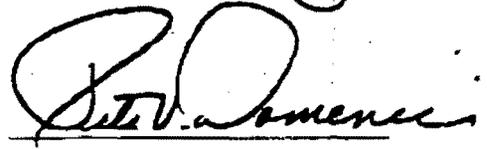
Daniel K. Inouye

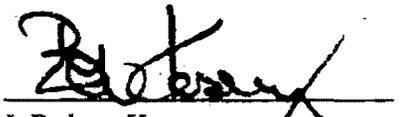
Dear Colleague  
October 10, 1997  
Page 3

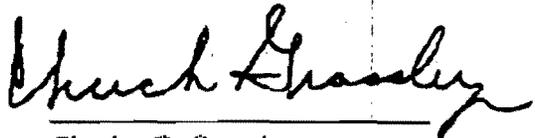
  
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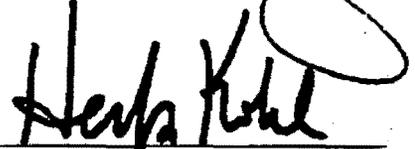
  
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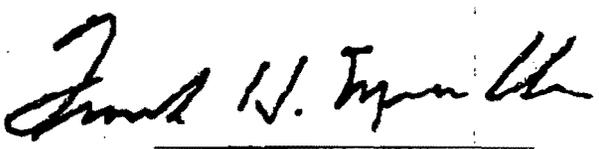
  
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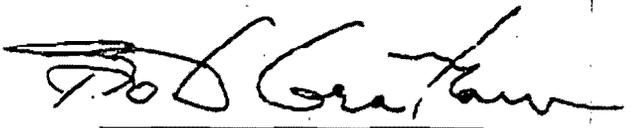
  
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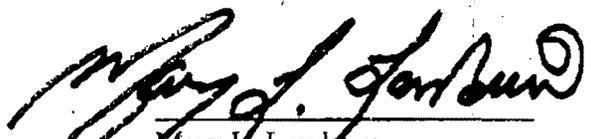
  
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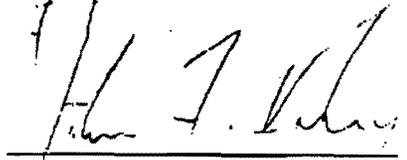
  
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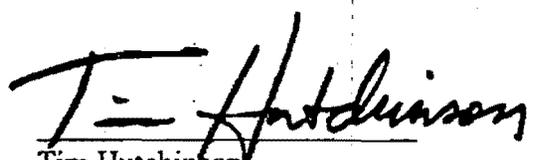
  
Herb Kohl

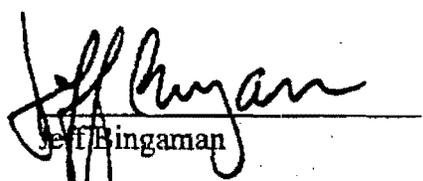
  
Frank H. Murkowski

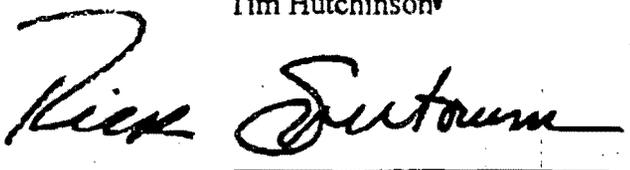
  
Bob Graham

  
Mary L. Landrieu

  
John F. Kerry

  
Tim Hutchinson

  
Jeff Bingaman

  
Rick Santorum

Child Care Conference - Satellite Contact List

Elaine Guiney, Boston 617-565-8415

Allison Greene, New York 212-264-4600  
NY, NJ, PR, VI

Lynn Yeakel, Philadelphia 215-596-6492  
WV, VA, DE, MD, PN

Barbara Kelly, Atlanta 404-562-2000  
FL, MS, AL, NC, SC, GA, TN, KY  
(Or Pat Ford-Roegner 404-331-2442)

Hannah Rosenthal, Chicago 312-353-5160  
OH, IN, IL, MI, WI, MN

Sandra Walker, Kansas City 816-880-4000  
NE, KS, IA, MO

Pat Montoya, Dallas 214-767-3301  
TX, OK, AR, LA, NM

Margaret Cary, Denver 303-844-3372  
ND, SD, CO, MT, UT, WY

Grantland Johnson, San Francisco 415-437-8500  
CA, HI, AZ, GU

Carla Nuxholl, Seattle 206-220-7802  
AK, WA, OR, ID

Kimberly O'Connor 202-224-6770  
Congressional Site

## WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE

*Over the past decade, the number of American families with working parents has expanded dramatically.... Each of us -- from businesses to religious leaders to policy-makers and elected officials -- has a responsibility and an important stake in making sure that children of all ages have the best possible care available to them. From infancy to adolescence, in child care settings and after-school programs, children can learn and thrive with the right care, attention and education.*

--President Clinton, July 23, 1997

On October 23, 1997, the President and the First Lady will host the *White House Conference on Child Care* in the East Room of the White House. The conference will examine the state of child care in this country and explore how Americans can better respond to the needs of working families for affordable, high quality care.

There will be two panel discussions. The morning panel will address: (1) why child care is important to our children's development, the health of American communities, and the nation's economy; and (2) what is quality child care. The afternoon panel will provide an overview of the strengths and weaknesses of child care in America and highlight promising efforts across the country.

### I. OPENING SESSION

### II. PANEL DISCUSSION: WHY DOES GOOD CHILD CARE MATTER AND HOW DO WE KNOW IT WHEN WE SEE IT?

#### Part 1: Why is Child Care Important?

This panel will include presentations by experts on the relationship between child care and children's development, particularly in the earliest years of life; the need for adequate care for children of school age; and the importance of child care to our economy and workforce.

#### Part 2: What Is Quality Child Care?

A state legislator, a child care provider, and a parent will present three perspectives on what makes quality child care.

### III. WHITE HOUSE LUNCHEON AND WORKING SESSIONS AT FEDERAL AGENCIES

Several Cabinet Secretaries will host working sessions at their agencies during the White House luncheon.

**IV. PANEL DISCUSSION: HOW DO WE MOBILIZE THE PIVOTAL SECTORS TO SUPPORT AFFORDABLE, QUALITY CHILD CARE?**

**Part 1: What is Going On In Child Care Across the Country?**

Secretary Shalala will give an overview of the strengths and gaps in child care across the country as well as the role of the federal government in child care.

**Part 2: What Promising Models Can We Learn From?**

This panel will include presentations by state and local officials, military personnel, a religious leader, and representatives from business, labor, and the health care community on promising efforts to promote affordable, quality child care.

**V. SOUTH LAWN RECEPTION**

The conference will conclude with a reception and closing remarks on the White House South Lawn.

## Quality of Care Affects Our Children

**"Recent brain research suggests that warm, responsive child care is not only comforting for an infant; it is critical to healthy development."** *Rethinking the Brain: New Insights into Early Development*, Rima Shore (1997)

**"[T]he quality of child care for very young children does matter for their cognitive development and their use of language. In addition, quality child care in the early years, meaning care with a high degree of positive interaction between caregivers and children, can also lead to better mother-child interaction, the study finds."** *Mother-Child Interaction and Cognitive Outcomes Associated with Early Child Care*, NICHD (1997)

Use "National  
Academy of  
Sciences  
Natl.  
Res.  
Council"

IG  
HHS

## The Quality of Child Care

### What We Know about Quality Child Care

**High quality child care that is specifically designed to offer resources that may not otherwise be available to poor families can reap developmental benefits. Yet many children living in poverty receive child care that, at best, does not support their optimal development and, at worst, may compromise their health and safety.** *New Findings on Children, Families, and Economic Self-Sufficiency*, National Research Council, Institute of Medicine (1995)

**"Of greatest concern is the large number of children who are presently cared for in settings that do not protect their health and safety and do not provide appropriate developmental stimulation. Poor quality care, more than any single type of program or arrangement, threatens children's development, especially children from poor and minority programs."** *Who Cares for America's Children? Child Care Policy for the 1990's*, National Research Council (1990)

A four-state study of child care centers found that **the younger the children served, the poorer the quality of care:** 40 percent of infant and toddler rooms provided less than minimal levels of care. Poor quality classrooms were characterized by safety problems, poor sanitation practices, unresponsive caregivers, and a dearth of toys and other child-related materials. *Cost, Quality and Child Outcomes in Child Care Centers*, University of Colorado at Denver (1995)

In the Study of Children in Family Child Care and Relative Care, **13 percent of regulated care was found to be less-than-minimal, while 50 percent of unregulated home-based care was found to be less-than minimal.** *Study of Children in Family Child Care and Relative Care*, Galinsky et al. (1994)

### What Works to Improve the Quality of Child Care

**The National Research Council found that the key elements of quality in child care include appropriate group size, appropriate staff to child ratios, caregiver training, and stable, responsive relationships.** *Who Cares for America's Children? Child Care Policy for the 1990's*, (1990)

**Periodic visits to child care programs by licensing staff can improve quality by identifying poor quality programs, helping them improve their services, and acting quickly to protect children when**

dangerous situations are found. State licensing officials rate this method as the most effective way to ensure compliance with licensing requirements. "Nationwide Review of Health and Safety Standards at Child Care Facilities", Inspector General's Report, (1994)

Infants are more vulnerable to injuries and infections. **Their rapid changes in behavior make regular or frequent visits by a health consultant extremely important.** *National Health and Safety Performance Standards: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Child Care Programs*, American Public Health Association & American Academy of Pediatrics (1992)

**States with stronger licensing requirements had a greater number of high-quality centers** according to recent research. *Cost, Quality and Child Outcomes in Child Care Centers*, University of Colorado at Denver, (1995)

## School-Age Care

According to the Bureau of the Census, in 1997 there were 38.8 million children between the ages of 5 and 14 years living in the U.S.

Approximately 24 million school-age children whose parents are pursuing work or education require child care (based on 1991 data from the Bureau of the Census).

### Care Arrangements of School-Age Children

Experts estimate that nearly 5 million school-age children spend time as latchkey kids without adult supervision during a typical week.

Approximately 1.7 million children in kindergarten through grade 8 were enrolled in 49,500 formal before-and/or-after school programs in 1991, according to the National Study of Before and After School Programs.

Access to after-school programs depends largely on a family's ability to pay (*Years of Promise*, Carnegie Corporation of New York, 1996).

School-age children are likely to spend time in many different care arrangements. According to the National Child Care Survey (1990), 76 percent of school-age children with an employed mother spend time in at least two child care arrangements during a typical week, in addition to their time in school.

### The Effects of Out-of-School Time on Children

Studies have found that latchkey children are more likely to engage in risky behaviors, especially urban children and those who have little access to adult supervision. According to one large-scale study, latchkey children are at significantly greater risk of truancy from school, stress, poor grades, risk-taking behavior, and substance use (■ *Characteristics of Eighth-Grade Students Who Initiate Self-Care in Elementary and Junior High School* ■, *Pediatrics*, Dwyer et. al, 1990).

What children do during non-school hours has a critical impact on school achievement and long-term success. Studies have found that children who attend good school-age child care programs may experience positive effects on their development. Children attending after-school programs had better peer relations, emotional adjustment, and better grades and conduct in school than their peers in other care arrangements (■ *Low-Income Children's After-School Care: Are There Beneficial Effects of After-School Programs?* ■, *Child Development*, Posner and Vandell, 1994). These children were exposed to more learning opportunities, spent more time in academic activities and enrichment, and spent less time

cite?

Source Census?

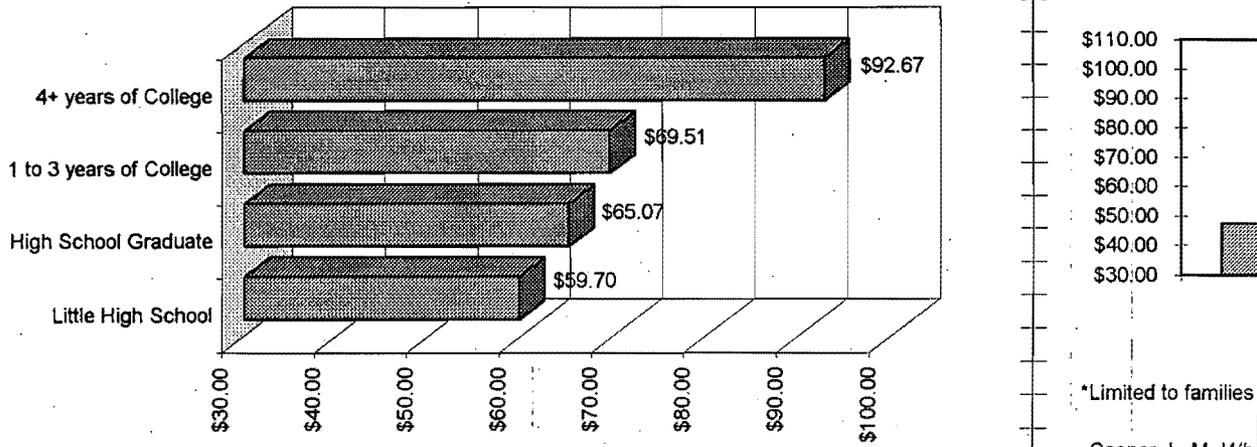
watching television.

This fact sheet is primarily excerpted from materials developed by the National Institute on Out of School Time (formerly the School-Age Care Project), Center for Research on Women, Wellesley College (phone: 617-283-2547; Word Wide Web: <http://www.wellesley.edu/WCW/CRW/SAC/>).

Age, Education and Income

Education	Weekly Cost of Child Care						
Little High	\$59.70						Less than \$1,200
High School	\$65.07						\$1,200 to \$2,999
1 to 3 year	\$69.51						\$3,000 to \$4,499
4+ years o	\$92.67						\$4,500 or more

Weekly Payment for Child Care by Mother's Education\*



Casper, L. M. *What Does It Cost To Mind Our Preschoolers?* U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, P-70, no. 52. Washington, D.C., 1995.

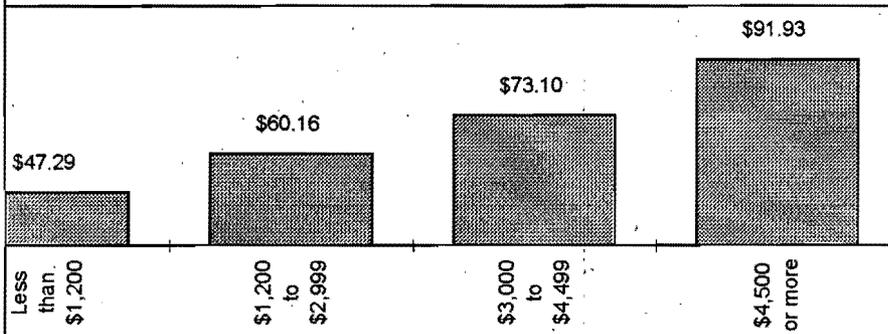
\*Limited to families

Casper, L. M. *Wha*  
Curren

## Age, Education and Income

Weekly Cost of Child Care					
\$47.29					
\$60.16					
\$73.10					
\$91.93					

**Weekly Payment for Child Care by Monthly Family Income\***



paying for child care for preschoolers, 1993 data.

*What Does It Cost To Mind Our Preschoolers?* U.S. Bureau of the Census,  
 Current Population Reports, P-70, no. 52. Washington, D.C., 1995.

# Economics of Child Care

*"To be employed, parents need affordable child care."*

- National Conference of State Legislatures  
 Early Childhood Care and Education: An Investment that Works  
 January 1997

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, in 1994, 62% of married mothers with a child under age six were in the work force, compared with 30% in 1970.

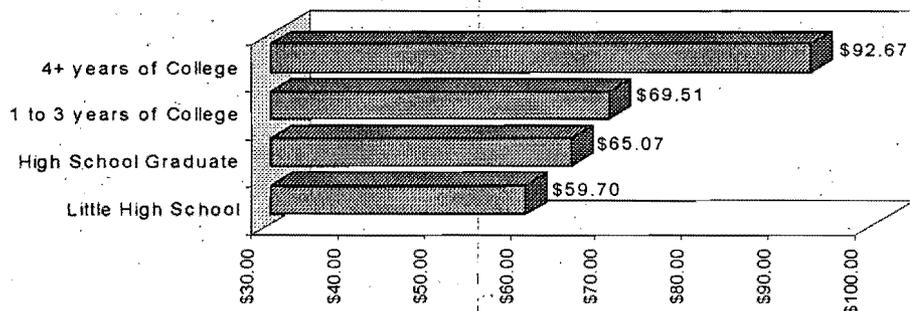
Because 8 of 10 employed mothers are likely to use some form of nonparental child care arrangement, the increased employment of mothers outside the home has led to a sharp increase in the use of child care over the past several decades.

In 1993, the average family with an employed mother and a child under age five spent about \$79 per week for child care for all children in the family (that is, both for the preschooler and for any siblings), an increase of about 10% over the \$72 that families spent in fall 1990 (all in 1993 dollars).

Families with annual incomes under \$14,400 that paid for care spent 25% of their income on child care, compared to 6% for families with incomes of \$54,000 or more.

In 1990, 7.2 million mothers with 11.7 million children under age 15 worked full or part time during odd hours.

**Weekly Payment for Child Care by Mother's Education\***



Casper, L. M. *What Does It Cost To Mind Our Preschoolers?* U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, P-70, no. 52. Washington, D.C., 1995.

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## Child Care Demographics

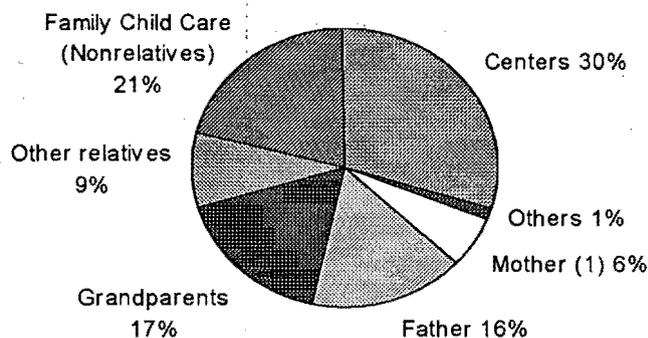
According to the National Center for Education Statistics:

In 1995, there were approximately 21 million infants, toddlers, and preschool children under the age of six in the United States, more than 12.9 million of whom were in child care.

Forty-five percent of children who had not reached their first birthday were in child care on a regular basis.

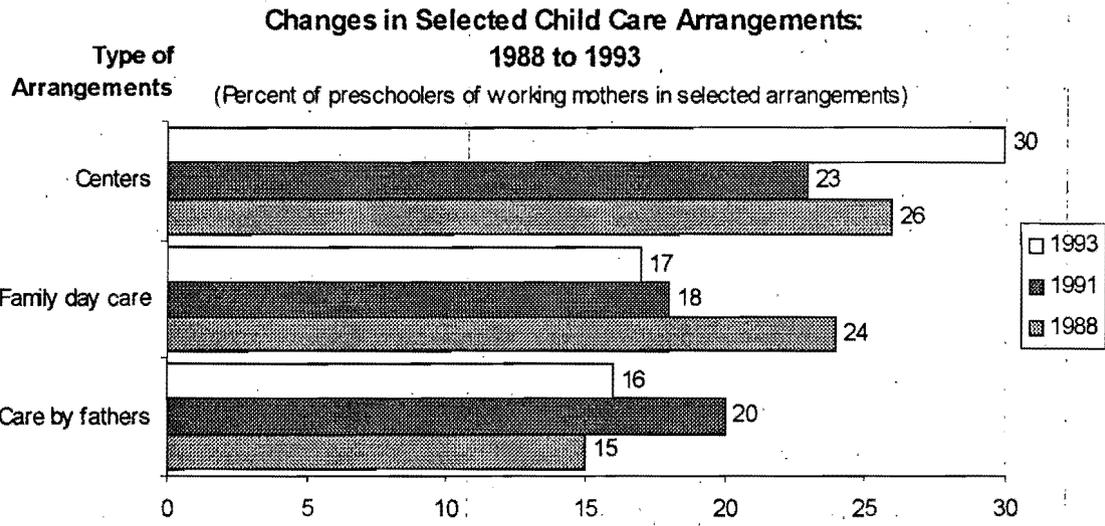
Children's participation in center-based programs increases with household income and mother's education.

### Primary Child Care Arrangements Used by Families With Employed Mothers for Preschoolers: 1993



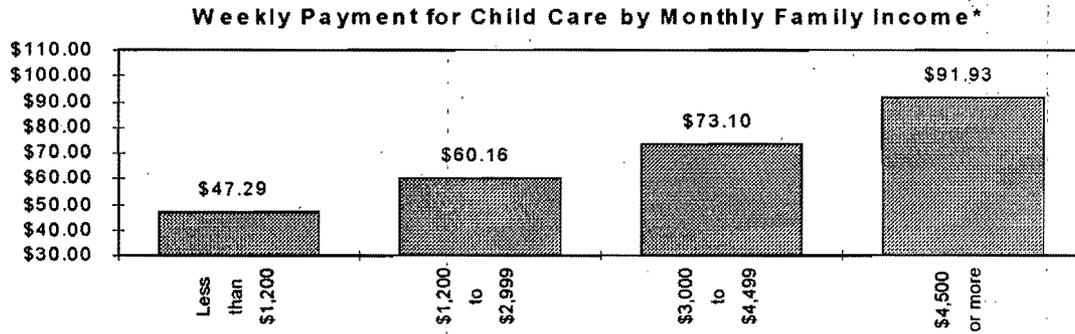
(1) Includes mothers working at home or away from home.

Source: Casper, L. M., *Who's Minding Our Preschoolers?* U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, P-70, no. 53. Washington, DC, 1996.



Source: Casper, L. M., *Who's Minding Our Preschoolers?* U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, P-70, no. 53. Washington, DC, 1996.

This profile of child care demographics has been excerpted from information provided by the National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Census Bureau.



\*Limited to families paying for child care for preschoolers, 1993 data.

Casper, L. M. *What does it cost to mind our preschoolers?* U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, P-70, no. 52. Washington, D.C., 1995.

Sources: National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education; U.S. Bureau of Census; Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor; and Sandra L. Hofferth, "Child Care in the United States", *The Future of Children*, vol. 6 no 2 Summer/Fall 1996.



Cynthia A. Rice

10/08/97 12:40:27 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Michael T. King/OPD/EOP  
cc:  
bcc:  
Subject: Re: Child Care Conference - HHS Fact sheets

I will do. However, there are only two fact sheets attached, not four. Are there supposed to be four?  
Michael T. King



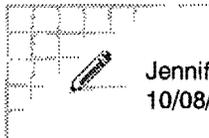
Michael T. King  
10/08/97 12:28:33 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message  
cc:  
Subject: Child Care Conference - HHS Fact sheets

Attached to this and the following email are four fact sheets being vetted for distribution next Monday afternoon. Please review them and return any comments to me in room 210 or fax 6-5573 by Monday morning. Call me at 6-5573 if you have any questions. Thanks.

----- Forwarded by Michael T. King/OPD/EOP on 10/08/97 12:23 PM



Jennifer L. Klein  
10/08/97 11:39:49 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Michael T. King/OPD/EOP  
cc:  
Subject:



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**Message Sent To:**

---

Emily Bromberg/WHO/EOP  
Janet Murguia/WHO/EOP  
Cynthia A. Rice/OPD/EOP  
Amy N. Finkelstein/CEA/EOP  
Emil E. Parker/OPD/EOP

# Child Care Calls

1) CDF

2) PPI

3) YWCA

- Business leader - Minneapolis - tried to start child care center in his company
  - started Successful Six
  - headed up United Way team

October 8, 1997

NOTE TO JEN KLEIN, NICOLE RABNER

FROM: CYNTHIA RICE

SUBJ: STATES EXEMPTING MOTHERS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN  
FROM WELFARE WORK REQUIREMENTS

In response to your question, I got HHS to produce the following information about states exempting mothers with young children from the welfare work requirements. They're checking some of these facts -- so consider it draft. But this gives you a sense of what we've got.

To: Joan Lombardi@ACYF.CCB, John Monahan@OAS  
Cc: Mack A Storrs@OFA.DSSP  
Bcc:  
From: Linda Graziano@ACYF.CCB@ACF.WDC  
Subject: re: TANF Plans and Child Care  
Date: Tuesday, October 7, 1997 15:30:10 EDT  
Attach: f:\wp51\docs\dlg\issues\exempt2.doc, f:\wp51\docs\dlg\tanfchl, ATT  
Certify: N  
Priority: Normal  
Defer until:  
Expires:  
Forwarded by: John Monahan@OAS@ACF.WDC

---

Forwarded to: Margaret G Montgomery@OAS@ACF.WDC  
cc:  
Forwarded date: Tuesday, October 7, 1997 16:58:13 EDT  
Comments by: John Monahan@OAS@ACF.WDC  
Comments:

Please print, john

----- [Original Message] -----

I have attached two documents that should be useful. Marty Hudson and I are working together to provide updates where there was some confusion about the exemption (some states referred to their waivers in the TANF plan). I will send you the updates asap.

Please let me know if there is anything else you need.

① Pls fax to Cynthia

② Cynthia -

Here is some information in response to your request. Given that this information is being updated, I recommend that these charts not be distributed.



State	Age of Youngest Child Exemption
Alabama	under age 2
Alaska	under 13 months; under 6 if affordable child care not available
Arizona	under age 1
Arkansas	under 13 months
California	A one-time exemption to GAIN participation exists for parents with a child under the age of 3 years old.
Colorado	under 1; under 6 will not be sanctioned for lack of child care
Connecticut	under age 1
Delaware	under age 13 weeks
Dist. of Col.	under age 1
Florida	under age 3 months
Georgia	under 12 months, unless adequate child care is available
Hawaii	under age 6 until child care can be identified
Idaho	nothing specified
Illinois	under 12 months; minors under 12 weeks

State	Age of Youngest Child Exemption
<b>Indiana</b>	children under 12 weeks in increments from the implementation of this program. Beginning with implementation, the exception will apply to individuals caring for a child up to the age of two years, after six months, it will be limited to children up to one year; after 12 months, to children up to six months, and after 18 months, to children up to 12 weeks. For children subject to the family cap, exemptions will only be provided until the child is 12 weeks old, effective upon implementation.
<b>Iowa</b>	Not Specified
<b>Kansas</b>	Not Specified
<b>Kentucky</b>	Not Specified
<b>Louisiana</b>	Not Specified
<b>Maine</b>	under age 2 (excluding parents under 20 years of age who have not yet completed high school; these parents will be required to participate in educational activities)
<b>Maryland</b>	under age 1

State	Age of Youngest Child Exemption
<b>Massachusetts</b>	certain single custodial parents who are caring for children under the age of one; and single custodial parents who are caring for a child under age six and have demonstrated an inability to locate child care
<b>Michigan</b>	No Exemption
<b>Mississippi</b>	under age 3
<b>Missouri</b>	under age 1
<b>Montana</b>	No Exemption
<b>Nebraska</b>	between 12 weeks and 6 months old may be required to participate part-time in activities such as family nurturing or pre-employment skills
<b>Nevada</b>	minor parent with child under 12 weeks; single adults caring for a child under age 1
<b>New Hampshire</b>	under age 3
<b>New Jersey</b>	under age 1
<b>New Mexico</b>	under age 1
<b>New York</b>	under age 3
<b>North Carolina</b>	under age 1
<b>North Dakota</b>	under 3 months
<b>Ohio</b>	under age 3
<b>Oklahoma</b>	under age 1

State	Age of Youngest Child Exemption
Oregon	under age 90 days
Pennsylvania	under age 1
Rhode Island	under age 1
South Carolina	under age 1
South Dakota	under age 1
Tennessee	under age 4 months; State may exempt all if unable to provide child care
Texas	under age 5 as of 9/95; under age 4 as of 9/97
Utah	No Exemption
Vermont	under age 18 months
Virginia	under age 18 months
Washington	under age 1
West Virginia	under age 1 for first child; under age 6 months for second and susequent children
Wisconsin	under age 12 weeks
Wyoming	under age 1; considering changing to 3 months

## States' Exemption from Work Policies for Families with Young Children

[NOTE: \*\* = states that exempt families with a child less than one year of age or older]

### REGION I

#### **\*\*CONNECTICUT**

A single parent or caretaker relative of a child under one year of age is exempt from engaging in work as long as the child is not covered under the family cap provision of the waiver.

#### **\*\*MAINE**

Those caring for a child less than two years of age are exempt from work requirements. This under two exemption does not apply to parents under 20 years of age who have not completed high school; these parents will be required to participate in educational activities.

#### **\*\*MASSACHUSETTS**

Single custodial parents who are caring for a child under the age of one are exempt from work requirements. [Note. Claire McIntire, MA Commissioner for Health and Human Services, said in a Senior Staff meeting in May that parents with a child under two years of age are exempt.]

#### **\*\*NEW HAMPSHIRE**

A parent or other relative who cares for a child less than one year of age (may be less than three years of age, but wording was unclear) is exempt from work requirements. [Marty's says three years]

#### **\*\*RHODE ISLAND**

A single parent/caretaker relative caring for a child less than one year of age is exempt from work requirements.

#### **\*\*VERMONT**

A parent who cares for a child under the age of 18 months is exempt from work requirements. However, to qualify for this exemption, a parent of a child older than six months shall participate in the education, training, and other activities necessary for the completion of such a plan if the parent has not already done so before the expiration of the 15-month or 30-month time limit.

### REGION II

#### **\*\*NEW JERSEY**

Single, custodial parents with a child under one year of age are exempt from work requirements. A parent may only receive this exemption for a total of 12 months. Under pending Work First NJ legislation, this exemption is subject to change.

#### **\*\*NEW YORK**

Those caring for a child less than three years of age are exempt from work requirements.

**\*\*PUERTO RICO [plan not yet approved as of 6/24/97]**

A single custodial parent caring for a child under one year of age is not required to engage in work.

**VIRGIN ISLANDS [Not approved as of 6/24/97]**

A single custodial parent caring for a child less than six months of age is exempt from engaging in work.

**REGION III****DELAWARE**

A parent caring for a child under 13 weeks of age is exempt from engaging in work.

**\*\*DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

A single custodial parent caring for a child under one year of age is not required to engage in work.

**\*\*MARYLAND**

Adults who are required to care for a child under the age of one year are exempt from work requirements. This exemption does not apply to a teen parent who has not finished secondary school.

**\*\*PENNSYLVANIA**

A single custodial parent of a child under the age of one year is exempt from work requirements (granted for a total of 12 months in the parent's lifetime).

**\*\*VIRGINIA**

A parent or caretaker relative of a child under 18 months of age is exempt from engaging in work.

**WEST VIRGINIA**

A woman who has a child six months of age or younger is exempt from work requirements. However, this exemption is extended to two years for the birth of the *first* child after a woman has become a public assistance recipient. *[Marty's says one year for the extension]*

**REGION IV****\*\*ALABAMA**

A parent or other caretaker relative who is personally responsible for providing care for a child under two years of age is exempt from work requirements.

**\*\*GEORGIA**

Adult recipients with a child under one year of age will not be mandated to participate.

**FLORIDA**

One custodial parent with a child under three months of age will be exempt from work requirements, but the parent may be required to attend parenting classes or other activities to better prepare for the responsibilities of raising a child. If the custodial parent is age 19 or younger and has not completed high school or the equivalent, he or she may be required to

attend school or other appropriate educational activities. Among single-parent families, a family that has older preschool children or school-age children shall be assigned priority for work activities.

#### **KENTUCKY**

No direct mention about families with children under one year of age being exempt, but it is noted that participant work activities will be based on the age of the youngest child in the family and access to child care (in addition to other factors).

#### **\*\*MISSISSIPPI**

A caretaker of a child under one year of age is exempt from work requirements. *[Marty's says three years]*

#### **\*\*NORTH CAROLINA**

Mothers with children under the age of one are exempted from work requirements and single parents with children under six will be phased-in as child care becomes available.

#### **\*\*SOUTH CAROLINA**

A parent or caretaker relative with a child under one year of age is exempt from work requirements; however, custodial parents under age 25 who have not completed their high school education are required to comply with employment/training provisions regardless of the age of the child.

#### **TENNESSEE**

Exemption may be granted when the parent has a newborn who is four months of age or less.

### REGION V

#### **ILLINOIS**

Not approved as of 6/24/97 (received by department 5/16/97 - no copy at CCB).

#### **INDIANA**

An individual is exempt from work requirements if the child is less than three months of age. This exemption is a change from a prior age of three years and will be phased in over an 18 month period.

#### **MICHIGAN**

A mother with a child under three months of age is not required to work. *[Marty's says no exemption in waiver]*

#### **\*\*MINNESOTA [plan not yet approved as of 6/24/97]**

Caregivers of a child under one year of age who personally provide full-time care for the child are exempt. In two-parent households, only one parent or relative may qualify for this exemption. It is only available for 12 months in a lifetime. Exempt caregivers must attend parenting classes, if available, but are not subject to sanction if they fail to attend.

#### **\*\*OHIO**

Caregivers of a child under one year of age are not required to work.

**WISCONSIN**

A custodial parent of a child who is three months old or less is exempt from work requirements but could be required to participate in other activities such as parenting education, and soft and life skills which prepare a parent to enter or return to the workforce.

**REGION VI****ARKANSAS [plan not yet approved as of 6/24/97]**

A parent caring for a child under three months of age is exempt from work requirements.

**LOUISIANA**

No mention about families with children under one year of age being exempt.

**\*\*NEW MEXICO**

A parent with a child under one year of age is exempt from work requirements, provided that the exemption is one-time only and may not exceed 12 months.

**\*\*OKLAHOMA**

Adults or minors who care for a child under one year of age are exempt from work requirements.

**\*\*TEXAS**

A caretaker will be exempt from work requirements if caring for a child less than four years of age (effective September 1, 1997; it is currently under the age of five).

**REGION VII****IOWA**

Exemptions are granted to parents or other relatives caring for a child under three months of age. *[Marty's says not specified]*

**KANSAS**

No mention about families with children under one year of age being exempt.

**\*\*MISSOURI**

Single custodial parents caring for a child less than one year of age are exempt from work requirements.

**NEBRASKA**

The work requirement is waived for AFDC basic cases where the youngest child is under three months of age. For basic cases where the child is between three and six months of age, the caretaker relative must participate in part-time work activities. These exceptions apply for only one of the parent caretaker relatives for AFDC-UP cases.

**REGION VIII****\*\*COLORADO [plan not yet approved as of 6/24/97]**

Single custodial parents with a child under one year of age are exempt from work requirements until the child becomes one year old.

**MONTANA**

No mention about families with children under one year of age being exempt. [Marty's says no exemption in waiver]

**NORTH DAKOTA** [plan not yet approved as of 6/24/97]

Mothers with a child who is three months of age or less are exempt from work requirements (plus the month of delivery). Maternity leave exceeding 12 months cumulative for the lifetime of the parent will not be exempt from the work requirement.

**\*\*SOUTH DAKOTA**

All adults and minor custodial parents who are personally caring for a child under one year of age are exempt from work requirements.

**UTAH**

There are no exemptions for families with a child under one year of age.  
Temporary suspension of active participation is provided to search for quality child care.

**\*\*WYOMING**

A single custodial parent who is the primary caretaker of a child under one year of age is exempt from work requirements, unless the caretaker is a minor parent without a high school diploma or GED who will not be exempt. The legislature is considering changing it to three months.

REGION IX**\*\*ARIZONA**

Single custodial parents caring for a child less than one year of age are exempt from work requirements.

**\*\*CALIFORNIA**

GAIN (Greater Avenues for Independence) provides a *one-time* work exemption for parents with a child under the age of three.

**HAWAII** [plan not yet approved as of 6/24/97]

A parent or relative caretaker personally providing care for a child under six months of age is exempt from engaging in work.

**\*\*NEVADA**

Single adult parents caring for a child less than one year of age and minor parents with a child are exempt from work requirements. [under 12 weeks for a minor parent?]

REGION X**ALASKA**

Not approved as of 6/24/97 (received by department 6/2/97 - no copy at CCB).

**IDAHO**

Not approved as of 6/24/97 (received by department 5/15/97 - no copy at CCB).

**OREGON**

Women are exempt from work requirements for the first three months (90 days) after giving birth.

**\*\*WASHINGTON**

Single custodial parents who care for children under one year of age are exempt from work requirements. Under the State's STEP waiver, the State exempts parents with children under three, however, for purposes of calculating TANF's work participation rate, the state will only exclude single parents with a child under one year of age from the denominator.

## WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE

The President and the First Lady will host the White House Conference on Child Care at the White House on October 23, 1997, to examine the strengths and weaknesses of child care in America and explore how our nation can better respond to the needs of working families for affordable, high quality child care.

### White House Format

There will be two panel discussions held in the East Room of the White House. The morning panel discussion will address why child care is important to our nation, examining this question from both economic and child development perspectives. The afternoon panel will look at the state of child care in America and examine promising models nation-wide.

### Audience

There will opportunity for many people to be involved, through satellite conferences around the country, as well as through sites in Washington, D.C. -- at the White House and at TBD Federal Agencies.

### Federal Agency Sessions

We anticipate that at one or many Federal Agencies, there will be a convening of leaders in the field of child care and community leaders, who will watch the White House proceedings by satellite and participating in a working session hosted by one or more Cabinet Secretary. This working session would take place during the break between the two White House sessions. These working sessions at the Federal Agencies provides an important opportunity to hear from the leaders in the field on the critical child care topics raised at the White House sessions. During the afternoon White House session, the Cabinet Secretaries participating in these working sessions will report on the results of their sessions held at the Federal Agencies.

### Reception

A reception is tentatively scheduled on the South Lawn at the White House at the close of the White House sessions. This reception would bring together the people participating in all Federal Agency sessions with those participating or speaking at the White House convening.

Not for distribution

## WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE

The President and the First Lady will host the White House Conference on Child Care at the White House on October 23, 1997, to examine the strengths and weaknesses of child care in America and explore how our nation can better respond to the needs of working families for affordable, high quality child care.

Two panel discussions will be held in the East Room of the White House. The morning panel will address why child care is important to our nation's economy and to our children's development. The afternoon panel will provide an overview of the state of child care in America and examine promising models nation-wide.

### I. OPENING SESSION

The First Lady welcomes and makes remarks

Short video is presented (5 minues) to provide child/provider/parent perspectives

TBD Parent introduces the President

The President makes remarks

### II. PANEL DISCUSSION #1

The President and First Lady facilitate

#### 1. Why is Child Care Important?

Expert addresses the relationship between child care and the economy/workforce

Expert addresses the relationship between child care and building strong communities

Expert addresses the relationship between child care and child development, and explains what makes child care good

#### 2. What Makes Child Care Good?

Legislator speaks

Child Care Provider speaks

Parent speaks

**II. WHITE HOUSE LUNCHEON/  
WORKING SESSIONS AT TBD FEDERAL AGENCIES**

**III. PANEL DISCUSSION #2**

The Vice President (t), Mrs. Gore (t), and the First Lady will introduce/facilitate this session.

**1. What is Going On In Child Care Across the Country?**

Secretary Shalala gives an overview of the strengths and weaknesses of child care in our country.

**2. What Promising Models Can We Learn From?**

Governor and a county official speak to promising model

Military Officer speaks about the Military Child Care System

Business Leader Speaks

School-Age Program Leader Speaks

Health Care Leader Speaks

[Other possible models?]

**IV. SOUTH LAWN RECEPTION**

TBD Cabinet Secretaries report on working sessions held at Federal Agencies

TBD Principals speak and close.

9/8/97 Draft

## White House Conference on Child Care Outline for Discussion Purposes Only

### Objectives for the Conference:

- Establish child care as a national priority and legitimize it as an issue in which all Americans have a stake, using both child development and workforce/economic arguments;
- Educate the nation -- particularly parents -- about the need for providing children of all ages with supportive, high quality care, and defining the components of quality child care (including school-age care programs);
- Illustrate tangible ways that all sectors of society (families, government, employers, military, religious community, philanthropy) contribute to the system, by highlighting model efforts nation-wide; and
- Launch policy that addresses key areas of challenge in child care -- quality, affordability, and school-age care.

### Opening Session: Setting the Stage

#### Possible Components:

Remarks by The First Lady  
Remarks by an Economist/Rubin (workforce/economic perspective)  
Video (human/child development perspective)  
Parent (introducing the President)  
Remarks by The President

### Panel One: What is Quality Child Care?

This panel would address a range of issues, including the effects of care on children, the effects of quality care on child development and school-readiness, and the various components of quality care for various age-groups.

## **Panel One, Continued**

### Possible Components:

The President  
The First Lady  
The Vice President  
Mrs. Gore

Economist  
Expert on impact of care to child development and school-readiness  
Expert on quality measures of child care for various age groups  
Expert on school-age care  
Parent  
Child Care Provider

## **Panel Two:      How Do We Strengthen Child Care in the U.S. -- Investing in Child Care and Mobilizing the Pivotal Sectors to Promote Quality Child Care**

This panel would address the status of child care from both state-by-state and national perspective, and examine model efforts nation-wide.

### Possible Components:

The President  
The First Lady  
The Vice President  
Mrs. Gore

Expert on "state of child care in the United States" -- state-by-state and national overview

North Carolina Smart Start and TEACH -- Quality/Workforce Investments  
Military model representative  
Business representative -- ABC? Doug Price? Small Business?  
School-age program representative  
Standards representative? AAP?

## **Closing Reception**

Child Care Conference Planning Meeting  
September 25, 1997

1. Conference Format
2. Video
3. Elected and Cabinet participation
4. Guest Lists
5. Satellite Conferences
6. Communications
  - A) Ramp-up activities
  - B) Announcements

Mrs Clinton doing 3 events next week

① Oct 1 Florida - Miami  
visiting on-site center  
② hospital  
tour  
roundtable w/ public-private part

② Quantico Marine Base  
→ military base

~~③~~ ③ Fri - Speech in D.C.  
University  
why issue is important

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Day before Conf → Mrs Clinton w/ reporters

**White House Conference on Child Care  
Options for Release  
DRAFT - September 25, 1997**

<u>Product</u>	<u>Due date</u>	<u>Contact</u>
1. CEA White Paper		Amy Finkelstein
2. Rob Reiner/Rosie O'Donnell Child Care Brochure for Parents		Nicole Rabner
3. Parents Magazine Survey Release		
4. HHS Child Care Bureau Grant Release	Oct. 2	Joan Lombardi 202-401-6947
5. HHS 1 page Fact Sheet <sup>↙</sup> on Child Care <sup>↗</sup> (5)	Oct. 2	Joan Lombardi 202-401-6947
6. White House Accomplishments A) Children Issues B) Child Care		Robin Bachman
7. American Public Welfare Association Survey of the States on quality improvement efforts		John Scianna 202-682-0100 ext 237

## MEETING WITH HILL STAFF

September 17, 1997

### TALKING POINTS

#### Background

- As many of you may know, the President and First Lady hosted a conference in April that focused on children in the earliest years of life. Called *The White House Conference on Early Childhood Development and Learning: What New Research on the Brain Tells Us About Our Youngest Children*, the conference used compelling new evidence from neuroscience to call for increased attention to the needs of our youngest children.
- Child care emerged as a key issue demanding national attention. The President, at that Conference, called for a further dialogue on child care issues, and announced that he and Mrs. Clinton would host a follow-up conference at the White House devoted to child care.

#### Conference

- The White House Conference on Child Care will take place on October 23.
- We have four goals for the conference:
  1. To establish child care as a national priority and legitimize it as an issue in which all Americans have a stake, using both child development and workforce/economic arguments;
  2. To educate the nation -- particularly parents -- about the need for providing children of all ages with supportive, high quality care, and defining the components of quality child care (including school-age care programs);
  3. Illustrate tangible ways that all sectors of society (families, government, employers, military, religious community, philanthropy) contribute to the system, by highlighting model efforts nation-wide; and
  4. To launch a policy discussion that addresses key challenges in child care.
- We are in the intermediate stages of planning the Conference -- we've thought about the basic structure, but have not yet made definitive decisions about speakers or issued invitations. We do plan to do both in the next few weeks.
- The general framework for the conference will be two panel discussions -- one focused on what we mean by quality child care and why it's important and the other focused on effective models nation-wide. [Turn to Jen/Nicole for further discussion]

- Like the April convening, we hope to have satellite conferences in as many states as possible to spur national discussion.
- **Most important, we see this as the beginning, not the end, of a discussion about where we need to move on child care policy -- both at the federal and state levels.**

#### Process

- To prepare for the Conference and beyond, we are running an internal policy process focussing on three issue areas: 1) protecting our children from harm in child care and promoting quality, 2) enhancing affordability, and 3) addressing the critical need for school-age care programs. The purpose of these discussions is to examine current policy and devise recommendations on where to invest limited additional resources.
- We don't anticipate announcing comprehensive policy at the Conference itself, as it will take place ahead of our own budget process. However, we do expect at some point -- perhaps at the State of the Union -- to propose policy that would require legislative action and/or to endorse pending bills.
- As we move ahead, we want to continue to consult with you, both on bills being developed on the hill and on our policy ideas. We would also appreciate hearing your ideas on the White House Conference.



Laura Emmett

09/22/97 06:58:35 PM

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Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: Child Care Conference Planning Mtg.

**There will be another Child Care Conference Planning Meeting Thursday, September 25 at 10:15 AM in Room 211. Please let me know if you cannot attend.**

### **Child Care Conference Planning Group**

**Attendees (Thursday, September 25 10:15 AM room 211)**

Elena Kagan  
Ann Lewis  
Melanne Verveer  
Jen Klein  
Nicole Rabner  
Cynthia Rice  
Mike King  
Ann McGuire  
Janet Murguia  
Emily Bromberg  
Lynn Cutler  
Kris Balderston  
Estela Mendoza  
Capricia Marshall  
Setti Warren  
Cheri Carter  
Christa Robinson  
Audrey Haynes  
Maria Echaveste  
Robin Bachman  
Amy Finkelstein  
Roberta Greene  
Noa Meyer  
Steven Cohen  
Marsha Berry  
Sky Gallegos

Tripp Donnelly  
Joan Lombardi- HHS  
Melissa Skolfield- HHS

Message Sent To:

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Ann F. Lewis/WHO/EOP  
Ruby Shamir/WHO/EOP  
Katharine Button/WHO/EOP  
Jennifer L. Klein/OPD/EOP  
Nicole R. Rabner/WHO/EOP  
Cynthia A. Rice/OPD/EOP  
Anne E. McGuire/WHO/EOP  
Janet Murguia/WHO/EOP  
Jessica L. Gibson/WHO/EOP  
Tracy B. LaBrecque/WHO/EOP  
Capricia P. Marshall/WHO/EOP  
Eric P. Hothem/WHO/EOP  
Cheryl M. Carter/WHO/EOP  
Christa Robinson/OPD/EOP  
Marsha E. Berry/WHO/EOP  
Sky Gallegos/WHO/EOP  
Michael T. King/OPD/EOP  
Kris M Balderston/WHO/EOP  
Raymond E. Donnelly III/WHO/EOP  
Elisa Millsap/WHO/EOP  
shrudisill @ acf.dhhs.gov @ inet  
Emily Bromberg/WHO/EOP  
Lisa J. Levin/WHO/EOP  
Lynn G. Cutler/WHO/EOP  
Estela Mendoza/WHO/EOP  
Setti D. Warren/WHO/EOP  
Audrey T. Haynes/WHO/EOP  
Maria Echaveste/WHO/EOP  
Marjorie Tarmey/WHO/EOP  
Robin J. Bachman/WHO/EOP  
Amy N. Finkelstein/CEA/EOP  
Roberta W. Greene/WHO/EOP  
Steven A. Cohen/WHO/EOP  
Noa A. Meyer/WHO/EOP

THE SOUTHERN INSTITUTE  
on Children and Families

April 18, 1997

Bruce Reed  
Director  
Domestic Policy Council  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

*Cynthia/Elena -  
This woman is great.  
We should involve her in  
our child care deal.  
Cynthia, can you call her?  
She has great info on what  
welfare recps do + don't know  
about child care,  
Medicaid,  
etc.*

Dear Bruce:

I am writing for two reasons. One is that I wanted you to know about a 17 state grant which has been awarded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to the Southern Institute on Children and Families to replicate our information outreach brochures across the South. The project will also take other actions to improve access to benefits for families with children. It is a major undertaking and I expect it is the biggest thing going on in outreach in the nation. The press release is enclosed.

*BR*

Second, as you will recall, I was one of the few child advocates who did not fall apart when President Clinton signed the welfare reform bill. It is of concern to me at this point, however, that almost all of the attention given to the changes needed to "correct" welfare reform are centered on food stamp and immigrant provisions. I feel that our attention and resources should be focused on trying to give families leaving welfare the resources to meet basic needs of their children rather than on immigrant benefits.

Of particular concern is that, to my knowledge, there is little or no attention being given at the federal level to providing more child care assistance to low income families. Additionally, I am unaware that any attention is being given to correcting the counterproductive policy that was part of the welfare bill that allows states to penalize parents with children above age six even if they are unable to obtain child care. From a public policy standpoint, I don't believe we should take actions that will likely result in young and adolescent children being without supervision after school and in the summer months.

*\**

Please let me hear from you regarding the child care issues.

Sincerely,



Sarah C. Shuptrine

Enclosure

620 Sims Avenue  
Columbia, South Carolina 29205  
(803) 779-2607

# THE SOUTHERN INSTITUTE

## on Children and Families

**For Release**  
March 26, 1997

**For More Information:**  
Sarah Shuptrine (803)779-2607

### **THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL INITIATIVE TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO BENEFITS FOR LOW INCOME FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN**

Studies conducted by the Southern Institute on Children and Families have documented that many low income families, particularly families on welfare, do not know about benefits available to help them meet needs while working in low wage/no benefit jobs. The studies show that many families, community organizations and employers do not understand that Medicaid is available to children in low income working families. Sarah Shuptrine, President of the Southern Institute on Children and Families, points out the importance of outreach, "It is critical that we get the message out that children do not have to be on welfare to receive Medicaid coverage."

The Southern Institute on Children and Families has received support from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to initiate efforts in 17 southern states and the District of Columbia to improve access to benefits for low income families with children. A major target group for the project is families leaving welfare for work. "With the passage of time limited welfare, what families don't know can hurt them. Families on welfare need to hear some positive messages in addition to the many negative ones they will receive as the reforms take hold," Ms. Shuptrine said.

The outreach strategies developed by the Southern Institute on Children and Families focus on several major benefits that in combination provide substantial assistance to families leaving welfare for work. These benefits are Medicaid (during and after transition), subsidized child care, the Earned Income Tax Credit and Food Stamps.

The project began on February 1, 1997 and will conclude in September 1998. Major activities include the following:

- **State Visits.** The project will work with state officials to convene public/private discussion sessions in 17 states and the District of Columbia on improving access to benefits. Special attention will be given to the need for outreach and making the Medicaid eligibility process more user friendly.
- **Technical Assistance.** Technical assistance will be provided at no cost to 13 states and the District of Columbia to help implement outreach communication strategies, including use of the effective outreach brochures previously developed by the Southern Institute in cooperation with four southern states (Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee).

620 Sims Avenue  
Columbia, South Carolina 29205  
(803) 779-2607

- **Outreach Videos.** The project will develop and provide a limited number of outreach videos to 17 states and the District of Columbia. The videos will present information on four major benefits available to low income families, including families leaving welfare for work.
- **Regional Forum.** At the completion of the state visits, the project will convene an invitational Southern Regional Forum on Improving Access to Benefits for Families With Children.
- **Reports.** Two reports will be disseminated to state officials. A report will be prepared in Fall 1997 describing the issues and successful strategies identified during the state visits. The final project report will include the results of project efforts to resolve issues identified by states.

Sarah Shuptrine will direct the project. Ms. Shuptrine is founder and President of the Southern Institute on Children and Families. From 1979-1986, she was chief policy advisor for health and human services to South Carolina Governor Richard Riley. She served as Staff Director of the South Carolina Children's Coordinating Cabinet and chaired the Work Group for the Southern Regional Task Force on Infant Mortality. Ms. Shuptrine was a member of the National Commission on Children and Families and the Carnegie Task Force on Meeting the Needs of Young Children. Ms. Shuptrine has directed local and statewide projects designed to make public programs more responsive and effective for children and families. She is co-author of numerous reports on improving access to services, the need for outreach and removal of Medicaid eligibility barriers.

The Southern Institute on Children and Families was founded in 1990. The Southern Institute is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit public policy organization which seeks to improve opportunities for children and families in the South, with a focus on the disadvantaged. The Southern Institute concentrates its work on the District of Columbia and the following 17 southern states: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, based in Princeton, New Jersey, is the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to health and health care. It became a national institution in 1972 with receipt of a bequest from the industrialist whose name it bears, and has since made more than \$2 billion in grants. The Foundation concentrates its grantmaking in three goal areas: to assure that all Americans have access to basic health care at reasonable cost; to improve the way services are organized and provided to people with chronic health conditions; and to reduce the personal, social and economic harm caused by substance abuse--tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs.

756-2960  
Gene Cohen  
Marisa Berry

CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY



Cynthia A. Rice

09/17/97 06:58:26 PM

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Record Type: Record

To: Jennifer L. Klein/OPD/EOP, Nicole R. Rabner/WHO/EOP, Emily Bromberg/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Suggestion for child care conference speaker

Margy Waller from the Progressive Policy Institute recommends Kathleen Parker, a Republican state legislator from Illinois, to appear as a panel guest. She was apparently quite instrumental in the effort to double child care spending in the state and create a "seamless" system for all low income families. Margy has not heard her speak, however. She recommends we ask the state child care director -- who I'm sure Joan Lombardi knows -- for more information.

Here are the contact names:

Potential speaker:  
Kathleen Parker  
191 Waukegan Rd. Suite 210  
Northfield IL 60093  
217/782-2119

State child care director:  
Michele Piel, Manager, Child Care and  
Development Section  
Illinois Dept. of Public Aid  
310 South Michigan Avenue  
17th floor  
Chicago, IL 60604  
312/793-3610

Could you forward this to Mike King? Is he on email yet?

## OPTIONS

### White House Conference on Child-Care

Draft - September 8, 1997 (2:05pm)

Listed below are three proposed formats for the White House Conference on Child Care. These options are presented for discussion purposes and suggestions or ideas are welcome. The final format structure must be locked in no later than the week of September 8.

Regional Conferences and the closing reception on the South Lawn of the White House will exist in either scenario. The structure of the Regional Conferences will be constructed to dovetail with the White House format and maximize press coverage, attendance, substantive discussions and where appropriate, attendance of principles.

#### 1. White House only event

This format would mirror the Brain Conference. The First Lady and/or President would host two panel sessions, a luncheon on the State Floor and close with a reception on the South Lawn. The days events would be attended by an invited guest list of 130 and the late afternoon reception would be opened to a larger audience of 800-1000 invited guests.

#### Advantages:

- Same format used in Brain Conference.
- Limited movements for guests and principles.

#### Disadvantages:

- Limited to 130 guests
- Limited substantive contribution by advocate community

The event time line would look roughly as follows:

Guests would be invited to arrive 30 minutes prior to start time.

10:00am- Opening session hosted by the First Lady and/or President - 130 guests  
12:00pm  
  
12:30pm- Luncheon hosted by the First Lady and/or President - 130 guests  
2:00pm

2:30pm- Closing Session hosted by First Lady and/or President - 130 guests  
4:30pm

5:00pm- South Lawn reception hosted by the First Lady and/or President - 800-1000 guests  
7:00pm

## 2. White House and Cabinet Day-Conference

This option encompasses the schedule listed above but expands the day's events and number of invited guests to include agency involvement. Event day would begin an hour earlier and provide a larger window of time between White House panel sessions.

This proposal creates three levels of guests: White House guests (130), agency guests (300-500) and reception guests (TBD). All guests from the agency sessions would be invited to attend the South Lawn reception at the White House.

White House guests will be invited to spend the entire day at the White House events. At closing of the morning session, White House guests will stay for a one hour working session (Host TBD) before proceeding to the White House Luncheon.

Agency guests will be invited to attend satellite viewing of the White House sessions at one of the following agencies; Health and Human Services, Treasury or Education. At the conclusion of the morning session the agency guests will be invited to a private briefing/working session hosted by one of the following Secretaries Shalala (quality care), Riley (school age) and Rubin (finance). Each Secretary will return from the morning session at the White House to host a one hour agency session and could then return to the White House Luncheon at 12:30pm. At this point each agency has the option of holding breakout meetings, or designing their own meeting format until the beginning of the afternoon session at the White House.

Companies  
(incl.  
-SBA?)

Each guest would receive the invitation from a Secretary to participate in a specific issue working meeting/mini-town hall, as well as an invitation from the White House for the reception.

### Advantages:

- Provides a "working" format and a dramatically more inclusive conference.
- Allows 300-500 otherwise uninvited guests to participate in the White House Conference on Child Care.
- Secretaries can contribute experiences from agency sessions into the afternoon panel session or reception at the White House.

- Provides a format for elected officials to participate by addressing specific issue oriented groups on the during the conference.

- Allows us to create a more diverse guest list.

Disadvantages:

- Creates another program to develop and manage.

- Require agencies to host a group of 100-200 guests on the day of the conference.

The schedule would look roughly as follows:

All guests would be invited to arrive 30 minutes prior to start time.

9:00am- Opening session hosted by the First Lady and/or President - 130 guests  
11:00pm (Satellite viewing at agencies) - 300-500 guests

11:15am- Secretaries participate at ongoing agency sessions - 300-500 guests  
12:15pm East room meeting hosted by TBD - 130 guests

12:30pm- Luncheon hosted by the First Lady and/or President - 130 guests  
2:00pm

2:30pm- Closing Session hosted by First Lady and/or President - 130 guests  
4:30pm (Satellite viewing at agencies) - 300-500 guests

5:00pm- South Lawn reception hosted by the First Lady and/or President 800-1000 guests  
7:00pm

### 3. White House and Cabinet Conference

This option encompasses the schedule listed above but eliminates the one hour session between the Opening session and the luncheon. All guest lists continue as with option 2.

White House guests would proceed directly from the morning session to the luncheon hosted by the President and/or First Lady

At the conclusion of the morning session at the White House, Cabinet Secretaries would return to their agencies to host either a working lunch or similar issue specific meeting/mini-town hall with agency guests. The Secretaries would return to the White House for the beginning of the afternoon session.

Advantages:

- Provides a "working" format and a dramatically more inclusive conference for agency guests without cluttering White House event.
- Allows 300-500 otherwise uninvited guests to participate in the White House Conference on Child Care.
- Provides Secretaries to contribute experiences from agency sessions into the afternoon panel session or reception at the White House.
- Provides a format for elected officials to participate by addressing specific issue oriented groups during the conference.
- Allows us to create a more diverse guest list.

Disadvantages:

- Creates another program to develop and manage.
- Require agencies to host a group of 100-200 guests on the day of the conference.
- Secretaries would not be able to attend White House lunch
- White House guests would not be able to participate in working meetings.

The schedule would look roughly as follows:

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 10:00am-<br>12:00pm | Opening session hosted by the First Lady and/or President - 130 guests<br>(Satellite viewing at agencies) - 300-500 guests |
| 12:15am-<br>2:15pm  | <i>Secretaries participate at ongoing agency sessions - 300-500 guests</i>   |
| 12:30pm-<br>2:00pm  | Luncheon hosted by the First Lady and/or President - 130 guests  |
| 2:30pm-<br>4:30pm   | Closing Session hosted by First Lady and/or President - 130 guests<br>(Satellite viewing at agencies) - 300-500 guests     |
| 5:00pm-<br>7:00pm   | South Lawn reception hosted by the First Lady and/or President 800-1000 guests   |

**VIDEO  
ON  
CHILD CARE**

**OBJECTIVE:** Produce a 12-15 minute video on child care intended to set the stage for the presentations and discussion at the White House Conference on Child Care, and for important application after the Conference. Community leaders have indicated a real need for a way to introduce audiences to the child care issues affecting our country. And indeed, there exists nothing else that takes an in-depth look at what child care means to this nation's people -- especially to children.

**APPROACH:** Create a compelling document that puts a human face on just how critical good child care is to working parents and their children --from infancy through the school age years -- as well as to businesses and to communities.

Not merely a recitation of the facts and statistics, the video presents first-hand evidence -- from typical American families and in their own words -- that child care impacts people's lives on a daily basis -- and at a very deep level. It includes recent research findings by Families and Work Institute that has led to revolutionary understanding of the issues.

The production features mini-documentaries about families who represent the varieties of work experience. It also includes individual interviews with parents, children, child care providers, supervisors, co-workers, business leaders, government representatives and noted figures. The stories run the gamut from the disruption of a whole community because of child care problems, to the positive effect of one caregiver on a single child.

Schedule permitting, eminent pediatrician Dr. T. Berry Brazelton has agreed to host. His role: to interview the families and children, and to provide the voice of the continuing narrator.

*Voices of parents + providers  
→ w/o even conclusions*

**CONTENT:** Demonstrate that only when child care works, can working families really work.

Featuring a representative cross-section of American families -- and the variety of child care situations typical in this country -- we tell stories both of success and of failure. The purpose: to understand what makes child care work, and what happens when it's not working.

We examine the effect of child care along several central parameters, including:

Development - incorporating findings of the exciting new brain research;

Attachment - the effect of child care on the parent/child bond, as well as critical factors in the child/caregiver relationship;

Family Dynamics - such as how fragile the logistics of working families can be, and how child care problems can have completely unanticipated yet very serious repercussions for working parents and their children, bosses and co-workers;

Economics - both the financial condition of the individual family and the larger economic health of business, community and country.

Overall, the program presents new and surprising insights into the real life of the American working family -- and the real story of how critical good child care is to us as a nation. It does not suggest specific policy, but rather makes a call for action from every sector of our society.

**CREATIVE  
TEAM:**

**FAMILIES AND WORK INSTITUTE** is acting as coordinating consultant for the project, the content of which is based on its staff's 20-year leadership in research on families and the workplace. Families and Work Institute also partnered with Rob Reiner on the **I AM YOUR CHILD** project, developing the scientific basis for this nationwide campaign on the importance of early childhood, and the outreach effort in all fifty states.

In addition, the **CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK** is lending its expertise as special project advisor.

NEW SCREEN CONCEPTS is producing the program. New Screen is the Emmy-award winning team responsible for the documentary segments of I AM YOUR CHILD. They created Berry Brazelton's long-running parenting series WHAT EVERY BABY KNOWS. Their credits include many network specials and series, such as THE BODY HUMAN on CBS, KIDS THESE DAYS on Lifetime and WE'RE EXPECTING on ABC.

**BUDGET:** The video is budgeted at \$85,000. This includes all costs for research, directing, script, studio production, field photography, post-production and consultants. For subsequent mass distribution, video dubs will be available at standard duplication costs. To meet the October 23rd Conference deadline, production must begin by September 1st.

WH CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE  
CONFERENCE PLANNING MEETING

September 8, 1997

3:00 - 4:00 pm

AGENDA

- I. Conference Structure Options (see options paper)
- II. Video (see proposal)
- III. Conference Format (see outline)
- IV. Elected Officials/Cabinet Participation
- V. Satellite Conferences

Announce

- 1) Parents mag. poll results
- 2)

- VI. Communications/Press
- VII. Paper for Conference
- VIII. Guest List

Steve Cohen / First Lady press officer  
Michael Khanfan /  
Ann Lewis

POSSIBLE PAPER

- agency
  - elected
  - congressional
  - groups - child care
  - ad hoc
  - etc.
  - 5) One page on initiatives
  - 6) Parents mag. poll results
  - 7) CEA white paper
  - 8) Consumer - focused page or use Child Care Action
- 1) Accomplishments doc - child care
  - 2) " " " - children's rooms
  - 3) 5 Fact sheets
    - a) child care workforce
    - b) children (# kids, # hours) profile
    - c) importance of quality → outcomes
    - d) Economic picture
    - e) School age care
  - 4) Fact sheet - current federal law

8/6

Such a top priority

- Quality
  - safety
  - development
- Access
  - information
  - affordability

shorter-term  
and  
longer-term  
goals

- How to build private-public partnership

① why is this important? (opening speaks)

② What is quality child care

③ How do we <sup>make sure children</sup> get at ~~the~~  
→ Community

## White House Conference on Child Care Draft Work Plan

### Formal Conference Announcement

- Draft Presidential statement on Conference for release -- N/J
- Draft Child Care Accomplishments/White House Conference framework piece for release as compendium to statement -- Joan

### Follow up on focus groups

- Send out follow up letter -- N/J/Laura
- Review submissions from groups -- Joan/ACF

### Policy Development Process

- Review HHS options -- N/J/Elena/Cynthia
- Involve other agencies -- July 24 meeting

### Conference Program

- Plan format (topics, interactive, how many panels, etc.?) -- Joan/N/J
- Develop list of possible panelists/programs to be highlighted -- Joan to do first draft
- Schedule internal working group meeting for July 24 -- Cabinet Affairs, Intergov., Legislative, Communications, Press, Scheduling, Policy
- Create video of child care providers, parents and children talking about child care -- Media Strategies Group  
*Plan email/satellite/interaction*
- Prepare paper for conference (talking points on policy, accomplishments document, internal q and a) -- N/J/Crista

### Conference Logistics/Funding

- Meet with Social Office -- N/J/Melanne

### White House/OEOB Guest List

- Develop "must invite list" from child care community -- Joan
- Develop list of groups/individuals to solicit audience recommendations from -- Joan

### Cabinet Plan/Interagency Working Group

- Send out memo to all COS's calling meeting and asking for memorandums summarizing efforts relating to child care and listing upcoming events/opportunities -- NR drafted -- date needs to be set and letter to go out
- Develop plan for Cabinet/regional administrator involvement -- asked Kris Balderston to do and coordinate with Intergovernmental plan
- Develop manual for satellite sites -- Kris B. with Emily Bromberg

### Intergovernmental Plan

- Hold focus group for intergovernmental organizations -- Emily B.

- Develop plan (coordinated with Cabinet plan) for Governor/local official involvement in conference -- Emily B. with Kris B.
- Coordinate policy process with Governors -- Emily B.
- Decide if date of conference should be announced/challenge for Governors involvement issued at NGA conference on July 28

#### **Congressional Plan**

- Develop list of Members of Congress and consultation plan -- Janet Murguia (Q's: letter to Hill following formal announcement of date? Meeting with leg. staff of MOC sponsoring legislation -- at some point in policy dev. process?)

#### **Press Plan**

- Develop press plan -- Pat Lewis (and replacement), Scoop
- Develop list of reporters covering child care -- Media Strategies Group
- Work with specialty press on child care pieces -- Pat Lewis, Scoop

#### **Other Events**

- Make schedule of events leading to and from conference e.g., FLOTUS to Quantico -- Joan

#### **White House Correspondence**

- Draft WH letter from Alice/Jim forwarding material to Joan's office for review -- Jim Dorskind with J/N

CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

## Education / Economic argument

- Set broad goals (POTUS) national framework (we all have stakes  
all have role)
- Core back to our system - fed govt / lawmakers  
(consists of State of Union)
- Downplayed for policy

*draft*

Date

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEFS OF STAFF OF EXECUTIVE  
AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS

FROM: Bruce Reed  
Assistant to the President and Domestic Policy Advisor

Thurgood Marshall, Jr.  
Assistant to the President and Secretary to the Cabinet

SUBJECT: Child Care

Over the past decade, the number of families with working parents has expanded dramatically, increasing the need for quality, affordable child care. Making quality child care more affordable and accessible is good for the economy and central to a productive American workforce, as well as important to healthy child development and later success in school.

As you may know, the President announced in April that he will host a White House Conference on Child Care this coming fall. Across the federal government, there are many efforts -- from research to technical assistance to training initiatives -- that affect the quality and supply of child care. The President is committed to building on these efforts to serve America's working families better.

On xxx at xxx in xxx, Elena Kagan, Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Domestic Policy, will chair an interagency meeting to discuss recommendations from federal agencies on the upcoming White House conference and discuss possible child care policy initiatives. Please designate a senior official from your agency to participate in this meeting, which we intend to be the first of an ongoing interagency working group. The representative should call xxx at 456-xxxx for clearance purposes. Please ask your agency's representative to develop and bring to the meeting a brief memorandum (of approximately three to five pages in length) that documents efforts relating to child care. Specifically, the memorandum should include:

1. A list and assessment of existing projects and programs funded by your agency that target child care for children ages birth through adolescence. These may include special publications, demonstration grants, research, conferences or other projects. With the exception of GSA, please include projects that affect the general population, rather than child care for federal employees.
2. A list and assessment of any planned projects, programs, and events of your agency that target child care, including projected funding levels and population to be served.
3. Proposals, as specific as possible, for additional projects and programs that could be undertaken to improve and expand child care services for children of working families.

## CHILD CARE

### A summary of focus groups

*"This is a point in history...a critical one"*

In April, the President announced that a White House Conference on Child Care would be held in the fall of 1997. In June, six focus groups were held to gather ideas to help plan the conference and overall strategy. More than 65 child care experts, representatives of national organizations, foundations and corporations participated in these discussion sessions.

Participants were asked a series of questions including:

- What was your initial reaction to the conference announcement?
- What is the most important outcome we should seek from the conference?
- What is the one thing that the Administration could do to help promote affordable, quality care?

The following is a summary of the key messages, outcomes and conference program ideas suggested by the focus group participants. Notes from each of the six sessions are also attached.

## Messages about child care

*"This is not a women's issue, it is a workforce issue"*

*"Education is a journey, but we send kids out without gas in the car"*

Three or four themes emerged from the focus groups about the overall child care message.

- **Child Care is one of the central issues of our time.** In a fully employed society of the 21st Century, we must address the issue of caring for children while parents work. **Poor quality care, unreliable child care arrangements are experienced as a silent, personal crisis by many families, rather than a societal crisis.**
- We need to recast the child care issue. **Child Care is about economics and education-** it is about workforce development and child development. One participant put it this way, *"Child care is a competitive edge issue in the global market place...good child care is competitive business."* Many suggested that we build upon the brain research to advance the image of child care as crucial to school readiness and long-term academic achievement.
- **Child care is important to all families.** Child care is a universal need-not a welfare issue. Without child care the country cannot work. **A quality, affordable child care system benefits everyone.**

## Outcomes

*"We need a Marshall Plan for child care"*

- **This must be more than a one-day conference.** It should launch both **short-term actions** to build momentum and a **long-term process** for moving child care forward, including federal policy changes and legislative commitments for **new investments.**
- **We must have a clear vision of the goal:**

*"Every community should have a continuum of quality care from infancy through adolescence to meet the needs of children of working families."*

- **Governors, mayors and the private sector must be challenged to help meet the goal in every State and community.** Child care is everyone's responsibility. Neither parents nor the federal government can do it alone. **Everyone should leave the conference with something specific that they can do.**
- **The federal government should set an example** by looking at the opportunities to enhance and expand child care across agencies.
- **Parents must learn to recognize quality child care and to demand it,** to create demand-side pressure for change. However, the conference must be sensitive to the fact that quality is both expensive for some parents and in short supply in many communities. Parents should not be made to feel terrified or guilty about the arrangements that they can provide for their children.
- The most critical issue is how we can finance a high quality, affordable accessible system for all children who need it. **A long term plan must be established to finance the full cost of quality** so that families can afford good care and child care providers do not have to subsidize the cost of quality through low wages. As one participant put it, *"Let's finally wrestle the finance bear to the ground."*

### **General Conference Program Ideas**

- **Nontraditional allies with new resources should be invited,** rather than the usual child care constituency. As one participant put it, "The conference will accomplish nothing if it merely preaches to the converted." Participants should include civic leaders, educators, law enforcement, health professionals, religious leaders and the business community. Parents should be included in the presentations. *"Child care is everyone's business and everyone must own it."*
- **The conference should be made accessible to the general public with viewing throughout the country.** The conference needs to reach a broad audience of parents and providers, as well as targeting a private sector audience. There should be satellite hook-up all across the country.
- **The conference should emphasize strengths and solutions,** but should avoid advancing very specific models that may be difficult to replicate due to expense or varying community circumstances. Models should be used where they point to universal principles that are essential for a successful child care system anywhere.

White House Conference Focus Group  
June 18, 1997

Participants:

Helen Blank, Children's Defense Fund  
Jeannie Brooks-Gunn, Columbia University  
Ellen Clippinger, National School Age Care Alliance  
Lynn Kagan, Yale University  
Tonlee Rich?, National Head Start Association  
Claudia Wayne, National Center for the Early Childhood Workforce  
Janet Wise, National Indian Child Care Association

*First Thoughts Upon Hearing of the Conference:*

- "This better be more than an event."
- This is a good opportunity for the nation to think systemically and consider the infrastructure required to support quality
- This should have a durable impact. It is a "kickoff" of something larger and not an end in itself.

*Message Recommendations:*

- The current lack of high quality, affordable, accessible care is a societal problem; it is not an individual consumer problem. Parents are not alone in their struggles with their child care arrangements.
- Early care and education occur at every moment in a child's life. Although not every child is in a child care setting every child receives care. Every person has a stake in all of the children of the society and the care that is given them.
- Frame the initiative/challenge/expenditures as a "Downpayment on America's Future," which encompasses the idea that spending money, time, and effort on children early has positive outcomes for the country later.
- Child care is not just a problem for poor people. People of all income levels struggle with child care arrangements.
- Quality matters. Quality has an impact on both short-term and long-term outcomes for children.
- Quality child care is synonymous with quality early care and education.
- Providing quality child care is a professional skill. America must value the work of caregivers and pay them a

living wage. Quality cannot be ensured until we reach this goal.

- Resources are required to bridge the gap between what parents are able to pay and the full cost of providing quality child care.
- Child care encompasses the need for care from birth through adolescence. "It's not just preschool."
- High quality, reliable child care arrangements improve the productivity of parents in the workforce, while investing in the development of the workforce of the future.
- American children have a right to a safe and healthy environment.

**Strategy Recommendations:**

- Make this a White House/Presidential acknowledgment of a major societal problem upon which he intends to launch a vision for the future and extensive plan of action. [Participant cited the recent race initiative as example.]
- Assemble the best minds to envision the universal, integrated early care and education system that our nation should have twenty years from now. It should include diversified funding streams and delivery systems.
- Have the President "show good faith" with an immediate action (such as more Federal dollars) and challenge the Governors to do likewise (see below), while announcing an initiative to examine and address the larger issues with a larger, long-term focus (e.g. a Commission).
- Have the President issue a challenge to the Nation's Governors to address this issue with resources and 10 year strategic plans. Have a few Governors "buy in" early and announce their commitments at the conference. Also enlist tribal leaders and mayors. [Noted tie to the National Education Goal #1.]
- Follow the one-day White House conference featuring the President and First Lady with a think tank conference to more fully hash out the issues.
- Provide satellite downlinks for people to watch around the nation, followed by local, on-site panels to further address the issues. [Participants cited "WH Brain Conference" example.]
- Maximize media coverage. Time it to coincide with an event that will garner more media coverage (i.e. Back-to-School, Thanksgiving's family focus, another announcement or event).
- Use regional conferences throughout the country to follow up on the WH conference.

- Pilot a completely comprehensive model that would install all of the pieces that have been proven to work into one community or State.

**Conference Program Recommendations:**

- Do not focus on models. There is no comprehensive American model that addresses all parts of the need. Large initiatives, like statewide or citywide commitments of resources should be cited, but they should be presented in the context of a larger vision. [NC, IL, and Kansas City were mentioned. International models were mentioned.]
- Focus on caregivers. The conference should address training (tied to compensation), wages and benefits, turnover, and professional recognition. Recognize that all of these elements are linked: trained entrants into the profession often leave quickly because there are few wage and benefit incentives to remaining in the child care field. This cycle makes it difficult to build a skilled, stable, professional workforce.
- Include a panel with a center-based provider, a home provider, a relative provider, etc. and ask them to speak about their experiences.
- Build credibility with parents by focusing on their needs and including them in the program (e.g., on a panel or in dialogue with caregivers and employers). Strong parent involvement is necessary to have buy-in and the commitment of resources from multiple sectors of society.
- Focus on helping parents understand the elements of quality (e.g. through parent education, consumer education, and peer mentoring). Help parents feel ownership of their child care arrangements, learn to partner with caregivers, and learn to pursue high expectations of caregivers and settings.
- Include employers and the business community, but recognize that most working women are employed by small employers who do not have the resources to provide on-site child care. Be flexible and avoid a "one size fits all" approach for business participation. Encourage them to advocate for child care resources with their local, State, and Federal governments. Encourage them to think strategically about how child care impacts them and how they can contribute to improvement.
- Explore the connection between child care and the global economy.
- Emphasize that child care is a community problem that requires active community participation to address.

Recognize, however, that every community is different and have different levels of resources to address the problem.

- Focus on the importance of regulations and standards. Participant noted that we expect barbers to be licensed, but millions of children are in unregulated child care.

**Concerns:**

- Several participants expressed concern over the narrow connotations attached to the term "child care." They wanted a broader term that encompassed child development, early care and education, the inclusion of children with disabilities, cultural diversity issues, and a recognition of care needs from infancy through adolescence.
- Do not terrify parents and families about the current poor quality of many child care settings or the unavailability of quality, affordable care.
- Do not make parents feel guilty about the kind of care that they are currently able to provide for their children. Emphasize that this is a systemic breakdown, not a personal failure.
- Some of the ambivalence around child care is rooted in societal ambivalence about mothers in the workforce. We need to be careful about the message that may be sent (or perceived to have been sent) about this issue.
- Some Welfare to Work initiatives are eroding the value of caregiving as a profession by implying that anyone can do child care and that it requires no special skills or training.
- Some States are allowing TANF dollars to be spent on child care without standards, which removes part of the incentive for providers to be licensed and puts some providers in financial jeopardy because parents are choosing cheaper, unregulated care.

White House Conference Focus Group  
June 20, 1997

Participants:

Ellen Galinsky, Families and Work Institute  
Melinda Green, Child Care Connection, Trenton, NJ  
Barbara Kamara, District of Columbia Dept. of Human Services  
Roberta Malavenda, Save the Children  
Carole Porterman, Detroit CCCC  
Nancy Sconyers, National Association of Child Advocates  
Tutti Sherlock, Minnesota Resource & Referral Network  
Gail Solit, Gallaudet University Child Development Center  
Barbara Willer, NAEYC  
Alice Walker-Duff, Crystal Stairs, Los Angeles, CA

*First Thoughts Upon Hearing of the Conference:*

- "They can't really be serious-this Fall! It's about time."
- Curious about target audience and outcomes.
- "Wouldn't it be wonderful if the highest level of government embraced child care?"

*Message Recommendations:*

- Educated consumers are needed to help drive quality.
- Parents must understand the importance of their choices.
- We must respect the diversity of families.
- Accessible, affordable, quality child care is vital to economic stability and long-term productivity.
- Our current subsidy system is not even meeting the need to fund the poor quality system that we currently have, let alone the quality system that we should aspire to.
- Avoid any messages that seem to imply that government should "take over raising kids."

*Strategy Recommendations:*

- Develop new funding streams. Although the public sector must do more, it cannot realistically do everything. Use Presidential leadership, tax credits, collective financing strategies, and incentives, to get more people to the table with resources.
- Make the event a launching pad for action with a major Presidential initiative around resources and quality.
- Use the event to build the political will for money and quality.

- Follow a Renaissance Weekend type of format to foster creative thinking. Avoid simply bringing together the standard group of child care constituents who already regularly speak with and "lecture" one another.
- Establish community child care mobilization and planning money for local organization. Model it on the Empowerment Zones.
- Have every Cabinet agency examine its programs' interaction with child care.
- Launch a task force on financing with a Presidential commitment to follow-up on recommendations.
- Institute a Marshall Plan for child care.
- Disseminate widely on videotape the parts of the program that are relevant to parents to be used in Head Start, child care consumer ed, and parent ed programs.
- Consider expanding the CCDF, because it provides a strong, pre-existing legislative framework with a streamlined approach to child care.
- Build on the wave of devolution to the States to challenge and inspire the governors and mayors to sign on. Stress intergovernmental linkages.
- Get more quality money to the States, because the quality set-aside was reduced in CCDF.
- Parallel the need for and future development of early childhood education with universal public education. Note that some participants felt that this was a real danger politically and doesn't resonate with parents when tested in focus groups.
- Have a webpage in conjunction with the conference.
- Issue an Executive Order to institute National Child Care Professional Recognition Day. One participant expressed that parents have often requested a provider recognition day. Another expressed concern that it might simply be a token day.
- Have breakfast on the WH lawn for parents and providers.
- Build on the brain conference with a second round of media attention and local implementation and awareness work.

#### *Conference Program Recommendations:*

- Build a strong foundation with a clearly articulated Presidential vision.
- Bring people together to figure out how to generate the \$100 billion that we need for child care.
- Use a two-pronged approach: one part for parents, one part for policy makers.

- Take exceptional care about HOW we talk to parents. Use language that reflects the way that they think and talk about child care (cited brain conference, Child Care Aware focus groups.)
- Focus on resources. Even if parents have adequate consumer information about quality, they cannot purchase it if it is not affordable and the resources are not available.
- Use parents' voices. They are often ahead of the field in "militance and dissatisfaction with the child care status quo." They also describe quality most eloquently.
- Highlight principles from around the country. Look for pockets of excellence.
- Avoid small, narrow models that might be bound in a particular community's circumstance.
- Celebrate and promote community-based solutions. Don't advocate a one approach which may not fit all communities' needs.
- Focus on building a number of child care constituencies. Don't simply rely on the private sector.
- Focus on the early childhood workforce issues, including training tied to compensation, wage issues, benefit issues.
- Be mindful of the full range of providers, including family child care and Head Start.
- Look at the issue from the perspective of children, families, providers, business, and communities and examine how the needs are similar or different.
- Address the huge infant need.
- Ground content, recommendation, and actions in the context of data and information.
- Focus on accreditation to build and recognize quality. Think about national standards.
- Address racism and gender issues in child care. Have presenters and invitees who represent the diversity of people affected by child care. Consider language issues and the need for the program to be culturally sensitive to a variety of groups.
- Highlight the Federal government as a model employer on child care issues.

**Concerns:**

- "If you say the word 'quality' to policymakers, their eyes glaze over."
- The fact that child care programs have been administered by human services agencies, rather than education agencies, has reinforced the idea that child care is just for poor people.

- Be careful about addressing affordability issues, mindful of the fact that TANF and working families with low-incomes compete for the limited resources.

White House Conference Focus Group  
June 23, 1997

Participants:

Joyce Butler, National Child Care Association  
Deborah Eaton, National Association for Family Child Care  
Abbey Griffin, Zero to Three  
Janice Gurney, American Academy of Pediatrics  
Bruce Hershfield, Child Welfare League of America  
Charlene Mohamed (for Billie Young)  
Evelyn Moore, National Black Child Development Institute  
Billie Osbourne-Fears, Starting Point for Child Care & Early Education  
Carol Phillips, National Council on Early Childhood Professional Recognition  
Julie Quaid, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation  
Susan Russell, Day Care Services Association, NC  
Michelle Seligson, School Age Child Care Project, Wellesley  
Heather Weiss, Harvard Family Research Project

*First Thoughts Upon Hearing About the Conference:*

- "This should be about quality, not quantity"
- What will be achieved? There had better be an outcome.
- We need to generate "a clearer idea of what child care is and how it fits into the American landscape."
- We should change the nature of the discourse on child care by looking at it from the child's point of view.
- Hope it is more substance and not a few flashy models that will not be able to play out in other communities, because of different community characteristics.
- "It's about time. We can't do it alone. We have nothing to deal with training and supply in a real way."

*Message Recommendations:*

- Public investment in children needs to start earlier.
- Child care and early education are synonymous.
- Child Care is an investment with great returns in both the short and the long-run.
- Child care is about self-sufficiency and taking care of yourself and your family.
- The working poor are left out of the system.
- Parents should not feel guilty about child care. People should be able to feel good about working.
- Child care supports families' and parents' role in child development.

- The current healthy economy is a rationale for why we can make this is a good time to make an investment in capacity building. The healthy economy also can be cited for driving child care demand, by virtue of high employment rates.
- If we decide as a Nation that every able-bodied person must work, we must consider who will mind the children. If we don't we will pay for it in the child abuse and neglect system, the foster care system, and the juvenile justice system.

#### **Strategy Recommendations:**

- Parlay the conference into more than a one day event.
- Use technology to create a real-time broadcast. (See CNN's "Talk Back Live.")
- Don't preach to the converted. Address the whole population, including people without children. Engage parents who haven't yet gotten the message and bring in business leaders and State and local public officials who haven't yet embraced a child care agenda.
- Establish a commission to push the agenda on a powerful level.
- Introduce a specific legislative package. Use a "disaster relief" approach in the short run, in conjunction with a long-term strategic plan, including legislation and outcome measures.
- A legislative package might include: training scholarships; links to higher education; recommended voluntary health, safety, and quality standards; incentive money to build capacity via grants or loans; revision of the Dependent Care Tax Credit with expansion and refundability. Build in different funding streams include funds and incentives to parents, businesses, and providers.
- Examine current regulations and funding guidelines in the housing and community development arenas to remove barriers to using those funds for community child care.
- Use the bully pulpit to market the message and raise the dialogue through town hall meetings, hearings, etc., on the State and local levels.
- Open a high quality child care center with comprehensive services in the most economically depressed neighborhood in America and call it the "President's Child Care Center."

#### **Conference Program Recommendations:**

- Put child care in the context of the larger economy of women, families, work, and welfare reform, so it no longer conjures up babysitting in people's minds.

- Place this in the historical context of the WH decennial conferences on children.
- Include the both the economic and child development aspects of child care.
- Link provider education and training to compensation. Keep quality linked to supply; push for good child care, not just more child care.
- Focus on the most critical things to be done, because there are so many dimensions to the current child care situation.
- Focus on building infrastructure. There is inadequate infrastructure to support the current inadequate supply, much less to grow the system, improve the quality, or accommodate increased need from welfare reform.
- Highlight the most important infrastructure issues which are the development of human and financial resources. Look at the Making the Most of Out-of-School Time Initiative (MOST) for insight into how communities can build infrastructure.
- Approach the issue from a strengths perspective. Balance current issues and concerns with historical context and successful models, and the strengths of the profession.
- Do not highlight models without a broad-based frame of vision that can be expressed as legislation and a sense of movement toward a larger goal.
- Push toward universal child care in America, to unify us and produce a broader base of care. Until we do, resources will remain in jeopardy. Another participant expressed concern about the political unfeasibility of a "universal" focus.
- Don't leave parents hanging with no follow-up. After the brain conference, parents were eager to seek advice and follow-up, but too few mechanisms existed for it.

**Concerns:**

- Supply issues are more critical than ever. As people come off of welfare, the competition between the lower income people and the working poor for child care resources is going to intensify. When people leave welfare and join the working poor, will they lose the ability to pay for quality child care?
- Quality disparities may come to a head between people with very low incomes and the working class. As Head Start institutes performance measures and Early Head Start, there is not enough quality in the child care system to supply the working poor and wrap around Early Head Start.
- Some participants expressed concern that any attempt to establish national performance standards would lead to the demise of a legislative package or major strategic plan.

**White House Conference Focus Group****June 25, 1997****Participants:**

Randy Botnick, Benton Foundation  
Kathleen Christenson, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation  
Deanna Gombey, David and Lucille Packard Foundation  
Mary Larner, David and Lucille Packard Foundation  
Michael Levine, Carnegie Corporation of New York  
Luba Lynch, A.L. Mailman Family Foundation  
Marge Petrusca, The Howard Heinz Endowment  
Linda Rich, Pew Charitable Trusts  
Pam Stevens, Dewitt-Wallace, Reader's Digest Fund  
Ruby Takanashi, Foundation for Child Development  
Dee Topol, Traveler's Foundation

***First Thoughts Upon Hearing of the Conference:***

- "Send me the money. If a program could be initiated to bring the needed resources, that would be the top priority. We need to help families pay for quality, rather than have the Early childhood workers subsidize it. [This is the] one main thing that has escaped us as funders. We have put a lot of money on the table together, but it hasn't reached the core problem."
- "Great opportunity to get the point across that quality matters and there is going to be an economic imperative because of welfare reform."
- "This is bigger than a women's issue. It's a workforce issue."
- "It's the money, stupid."

***Message Recommendations:***

- The President should lay out the following facts for the American people: Women are going to work. Millions of children and adolescents have no care and supervision. We must do something about the situation.
- We must do a number of things simultaneously to address workforce development, child development, and current workforce needs.
- It is a travesty that, while our economy requires two parents to work to support a family, we haven't taken responsibility for the healthy care and development of working people's children.
- Working people are the most disadvantaged in the system.
- The difference between success and failure in community

experiments has been the availability of adequate resources. Subsidy alone will not beget quality unless an infrastructure is in place to support quality.

**Strategy Recommendations:**

- Bring more broadly-based constituents to the table than the traditional child care constituents. Give air time to the nontraditional players.
- Recognize that it is critical that the efforts be bipartisan. Enlist both Democratic and Republican governors, many of whom are already doing extraordinary things.
- Introduce legislation to shift the Federal, State, and local funding to realign the current funding structure so that costs are shared between 10-20% private, 10-20% parents fees, business contribution. Currently, too much is paid by parents and subsidized by child care workers via their low wages.
- Assemble the best economic and public policy minds to address the following question honestly: "Where do we get the money that child care workers currently subsidize?"
- Encourage systems reform and structural change so that communities can institute coalition-building and integrated systems. Provide planning money and use community leaders to let communities take charge and drive designs to increase quality and supply.
- Spark public private partnerships that focus on three or four primary aspects of quality.
- Launch a national campaign like the teenage pregnancy prevention campaign.
- Launch a BIG IDEA like the New Deal or the War on Poverty. Don't get so lost in details that the thread of the big picture is lost.
- Establish a commission funded with blended public and private resources. One participant suggested that the research has been and is being done already and should be assembled BEFORE the conference and analyzed before or during the conference, in lieu of a commission to perform this function afterwards. Another participant expressed that commission recommendations are often not implemented, due to changing political climates and/or administrations.
- Advocate two or three big strategies like universally funded Head Start, universal pre-K education with wrap-around child care, and the mobilization of the business community.
- Analyze the entire picture of Federal child care support, including tax credits, and determine to whom the money is flowing for what purposes. Determine if the results reflect

strong priorities and most appropriate distribution of Federal funds.

- Build a quality infrastructure by linking with welfare to work initiatives, the National Service movement, workforce development programs, and higher education.
- Examine Federal regulations to determine how they can be tightened to support quality. Link funding to quality standards. Several participants, though, expressed concern about national standards, and suggested using the private early childhood organizations to promulgate standards.

**Conference Program Recommendations:**

- Broaden the message to include pre-adolescents and adolescents who are spending more and more time unsupervised. Demographics will lead to a large cohort of adolescents in the near future.
- Focus on the economics of child care, like increased productivity and workforce development. One California county cost out the economic benefits of child care to the community and they were equal to the largest agricultural crops in the county.
- Validate the issue and take it out of the realm of the "soft issues." In the brain conference this was done by lending the import of scientists. Consider business representatives, economists, scientists, and parents.
- Focus on the outcomes of poor supervision and care.
- Talk about quality in a way that does not employ too much professional jargon.
- Focus on the plight of the child care worker and the degree to which early childhood is valued (or undervalued) as a profession. Discuss the women's business aspect of child care (e.g., microlending and microenterprise).
- Combat the perception that child care is only about poor children and families. The public perception is that child care only has to do with a small portion of the population.
- Explore the intersection between child care and Head Start.
- Explore the intersection between child care and family leave.

**Concerns:**

- It may be too difficult to send one coherent message if we focus on two vulnerable populations at once: young children and youths. One participant proposed that it deal specifically with younger children. Another participant responded that infancy through adolescence should be viewed as a continuum.

White House Focus Group  
June 27, 1997

Participants:

Margaret Browning, Mentor Graphics  
Ted Childs, IBM  
Michael Day, Bright Horizons  
Madeline Fried, Fried & Sher  
Dana Friedman, Corporate Family Solutions  
Rosemary Jordano, Children First, Inc.  
Chris Kjeldsen, Johnson and Johnson  
Donna Klein, Marriott International  
Mary Kay Leonard, Work Family Institute  
Barbara Reisman, Schumann Fund  
Charles Romeo, Con Agra

*First Thoughts Upon Hearing about the Conference:*

- This could be an important next step after the brain conference to "do something serious in this country about child development and parent education."
- Need to have a bold initiative on public policy.
- Are we ready for this after 30 years of talking about it? Can we air our dirty laundry in public? Can we build the public will to do what we need to do?
- What we've been doing and how we have been talking about it has not worked. How can we position the issue differently?

*Message Recommendations:*

- The President could build on his message of two more years of post-secondary ed, by emphasizing two more years of education before children enter elementary school.
- We must get the schools ready for the child and the child ready for the schools. Education is a journey and setting the child out on the journey without good early care and education is like trying to start without gas in the car.
- We must resolve to move toward a national system of affordable child care for the masses. However, a national system does not equal a national delivery system.
- It is unacceptable for an American child to come to Kindergarten not ready to learn. "This is a war and we're going to win it."
- "Good child care is competitive business." We must view this as a part of America's competitive spirit and a

necessity to give us the competitive edge in the global marketplace.

- One of our country's fundamental principles is that we must educate our people to have an informed, responsible citizens in our democracy, yet we fail to build on our principles when we neglect the education of children from infancy.
- Child care is not babysitting. All providers, from relatives to center-based providers, are teachers.

**Strategy Recommendations:**

- Establish a process out in the field to prepare for the conference by running focus groups all over the country, lining up partners in communities, etc.
- Position the President as the "Working Family President" and link this initiative with the Family and Medical Leave Act, EITC, etc.
- Work with the Cabinet Secretaries (Daley, Shalala, and Hermann were mentioned) as a group to act on the cross-cutting issues around work, family, and child care. Have them lead the way by streamlining Federal child care activities and setting an example for the private sector.
- Use the Presidential bully pulpit to maximal effectiveness by building public will to support related legislation.
- Focus on employers, large, small, and ambivalent. Recognize that they fall on a continuum with regard to how far they have addressed the child care (work/family) agenda. Don't just focus on the employers who are already partners.
- Use CEO's who were in child care as children to deliver the message. Dollars tend to follow business leaders.
- Focus on funding. Don't be shy to talk about funding as an issue.
- Establish a child care investment fund, using the administrative skill and investment knowledge of the private sector. Make it a public/private partnership possibly through matching of community investments.
- Encourage business leaders to integrate their current programs into a multilateral approach to the work/family/child care issues. For instance, have the priorities of the corporate foundation in line with the employee initiatives in the human resource area and family-focused public relations campaigns.
- Leverage off of K-12 involvement and support programs already underway in the corporate sector. Incorporate child care into the various programs like "Adopt-A-School" programs.

- Have a concrete product that comes out of the conference.
- Provide earmarked student loans for early childhood education and training. Provide loan abatement or lower interest rate incentives to those who remain in the field 3-4 years.
- Maximize the use of our infrastructure by mandating that school buildings remain open full day/full year. Provide state and local governments with strategies to finance the extra hours (e.g., allowing community groups to use the space.)
- Change the perception of providers by recognizing leading teachers in the field, especially young teachers, to showcase quality and change the professional image.
- Link every other Presidential initiative to young children and working families.

***Conference Program Recommendations:***

- Link early childhood to K-12 education agenda.
- Focus on how to build a more cohesive system with partners in a variety of sectors.
- Explore ways to recruit and retain good people in the field. It gets harder every year to attract talented people and harder to retain them.
- Focus on child care as a continuum from infancy through adolescence.

***Concerns:***

- If you preach to the converted, you will accomplish nothing.
- The private sector models that are currently underway are primarily for families that can afford to pay. The private sector needs better strategies for dealing with low-wage workers.
- The military model does not work in the private sector because it relies too heavily on universal subsidy and lacks the element of competition that is central to the private employer.
- When linking with other systems, be aware that many delivery systems, especially school systems, are ineffective with families because they fail to understand cultural/linguistic diversity.
- Don't advocate a one-size-fits-all approach. Some communities may have strong school/educational systems on which to build, while others have a strong network of community-based organizations.

- Be aware of the potential to increase tension between those who can afford to pay and those who cannot.

White House Conference Focus Group  
June 30, 1997

Participants:

Larry Aber, National Center for Children in Poverty  
Judy Appelbaum, National Women's Law Center  
Doug Baird, Associated Day Care, Boston  
Barbara Bowman, Erikson Institute  
John Brooks, YMCA of the USA  
Barbara Clinton, Vanderbilt Center for Health Services  
Angela Crowley, Nat'l Assoc. of Pediatric Nurse Associates &  
Practitioners  
Jerlean Daniel, Univ. of Pittsburgh & NAEYC  
Elaine Fersh, Parents United for Child Care  
Nancy Kolben, Child Care, Inc., New York  
Anne Mitchell, Early Childhood Policy Research  
Patty Siegel, Calif. Child Care Resources & Referral Network  
Sandra Skolnik, Maryland Committee for Children  
Rhea Starr, YWCA of the USA  
Bernice Weissbourd, Family Focus and Family Resource Center  
Lynn White, National Child Care Association

*First Thoughts Upon Hearing About the Conference:*

- " How do we go from dialogue to action?"
- " An opportunity will be missed if it is just a conference. There must be a strong follow-on plan."
- " Will he include school-aged children?"
- " How will he sell it to the country?"
- " This is a point in a long history, but a critical one."

*Message Recommendations:*

- Working families in America use child care every day. But what do they currently have access to and how do we build to meet their needs?
- "The strength of the current system is diversity. The weakness of the current system is how ad hoc it is."
- Access to quality is a national priority.
- Child care is not just of concern to the child care community. It is everyone's concern.
- Child care is a piece of the bridge to the twenty-first century.
- Partnerships are necessary to get the job done. There must be solutions on various scales.

**Strategy Recommendations:**

- Use the following frame: The President and First Lady articulate a vision of good child care across America. List the essential elements that are required to fulfill the vision. Emphasize that there is a lot of work to do and give people direction on the first steps. Check up on progress periodically.
- Obtain pledges and commitments (perhaps in advance) and then track and follow-up to ensure that they are carried out, like with the volunteer summit. Force accountability.
- Use child care as one mechanism through which the President can accomplish his other literacy and education goals.
- Launch a commission to investigate financing and ask the large companies to ante up into a huge public/private investment fund. The President must put money on the table, but use it to leverage other funds.
- Spawn similar conferences on a State and local scale with Governors and their spouses and local leaders.
- Place the exorbitant cost of quality child care in the context of the cost of higher education, to which people already relate.
- Foster the support of the middle class.

**Conference Program Recommendations:**

- Confront the issue of resources, which is central and lacking. The child care system that we talk about is expensive and we shouldn't pretend that it is not, however it saves money in the long run. Without a solid infrastructure and a 10 or 20 year roadmap, we won't get there.
- Cost out a real, comprehensive, quality system. If you had accurately predicted for people five years ago the level of the current new investment, they would have been happy, but now they feel it is still inadequate, because we lack an understanding of the actual scope of the need and a sense of what is required to address it.
- Make the connection to working families, especially the working poor, and portray child care as a crucial element in keeping parent(s) in the labor force.
- Focus on the silent customer in child care, which is the employer of the parent. Recognize that corporations' understanding of and efforts to address the child care situation fall along a continuum. Do not neglect small employers.

- Bring in the governors, mayors, business leaders, school leaders, and others to sell child care to different constituencies in the country. Have police chiefs sell it to police chiefs, superintendents to superintendents, etc.. Include unlikely allies like the labor unions, religious organizations, medical professionals, law enforcement, and the banking and finance industries. People will notice the messengers and what they represent.
- Give people focused recommendations for action and homework, so that they know what they are supposed to do the day after the conference.
- Have children speak about their experiences in child care settings of varying quality.
- Consider the delivery system very broadly. No matter where children are cared for, from relative care to center-based care, quality care in the first decade of a child's life is crucial to development.
- Connect the conference to the brain research to better demonstrate why early investment in children is important.
- Help parents understand what quality child care is from infancy through school-age.
- Have working parents speak for themselves. Highlight diverse parents and have them describe what they need from employers, from schools, etc.
- Give participants pre-work to do before they attend the conference. Each participant should investigate the state of child care in his or her community.
- Highlight child care as a system with an infrastructure and infrastructure needs, like facility and staff development.
- Ask: What policies can we have to ensure that all eligible children get good care?
- Include children's health, parents' health, and parental support.
- Use data to make the point.
- Avoid highlighting models that may not be transferable to other settings. Highlight only things which have the potential to be universal- not a cookie cutter, but a blueprint.

**Concerns:**

- Be aware of the frustration that is building from rehashing the same problems over and over again. Rather than exacerbate the frustration, highlight potential solutions.